

FIRST NEWS

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

JULY 2023

July 2023 Time with Tom

We are fully into the season of Pentecost or the ordinary time of the church. These days seem to be anything but ordinary for the church. The world is in constant change, and evil is busy trying to manipulate us into breaking relationships. We are being tempted with many earthly things that can keep us from the tasks given us by Jesus. Jesus sent us into the world because the harvest is ready. He also said the workers are few. As we go about our everyday duties and adventures, remember to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to all places and all people.

We have the best story so why not share it as often as you can. I hope you have great adventures this summer, and mostly I hope you come back often to share them with me. Tell me what you have done and bring back stories of where you have witnessed God at work in this world. Remember God will walk with us wherever we go because God has been there first. God goes ahead of us preparing for us opportunity to harvest the fruit of someone's labor.

Travel safe and live in the light and peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Do all things for the glory of the Father and ask for anything in the name of the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ, and the Father will give it to you; according to Jesus for his glory. This is the ordinary time of the church year; make it an extraordinary summer for the glory of God in Jesus Christ. 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

FIND THE
CHURCH CALENDAR
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon. - Thur. 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Fri. 8 AM - 12 PM
320-693-2487
Email: firstoffice@hutchtel.net
WEBSITE:
www.firstlitchfield.org

Council Highlights

“GOD’S WORK.
OUR HANDS.”

First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Council Minutes
Tuesday, June 20th, 2023

**First Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council
2023**

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

Mattie Baumgartner

Stewardship & Finance:

Karla Kadelbach

Andy Miller

Mike Langmo

Social Ministry/Evangelism:

Joe Berube

Meredith Elj

Abby Hemmingway

Amy Nelson

Endowment/Memorial:

Corey Cervin

Chuck Fenton

Property:

Dennis Gartner

Chuck Fenton

Gordon Burdick

Mattie Baumgartner

Worship & Music:

Gordon Burdick

Meredith Elj

Mike Langmo

Personnel:

Corey Cervin

MST:

Karla Kadelbach

Amy Nelson

Joe Berube

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:

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

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

2026: Karla Kadelbach, Amy Nelson, Abby Hemmingway, Mattie Baumgartner

*All members were present except Andy Miller

*Devotions: Mattie Baumgartner

*Secretary report was approved with a couple changes:

>Under Team Reports / Endowment Team / 4 students attended Confirmation Camp, not 5

>Under Pastor Tom’s Report / Radio broadcasts on KLFD are at 8:30 & 9:45

Sunday mornings

*Treasurer’s report was discussed. Bookkeeper Sara Rick attended the meeting and discussed the challenges with the software system being used. She has contacted staff at another church using the same software for guidance. She will also be contacting the software company for assistance. It appears there are some issues within the software that are not cross referencing the accounts correctly. Sara will use a different format for the reports supplied to the council. This continues to be a work in progress.

*****Pastor Tom reported:**

~MST International (Braga Portugal) update: There are now 9 travelers committed to go on the trip in 2024. MST will be selling tickets for garden tours. They will be serving a French toast breakfast during Watercade on Sunday July 9th. They will also be serving Root Beer Floats at Pie in the Park on August 10th.

~MST has received a donation of a Harley Davidson motorcycle to be raffled off as a fundraiser. A huge Thank You to Keith & Julie Fredrickson for this generous donation! The license to raffle the motorcycle has been applied for and awaiting approval.

~Pastor Tom will be gone July 23rd - 28th for the MST USA trip to Nashville.

~The Call Committee for the Second Pastor position has a candidate that has been presented. Initial conversations have gone well and the committee will set a time to meet with the candidate.

~Four students attended the Confirmation Camp at Brimson Camp House. This event was a cooperative effort and went very well.

~The Co-op radio broadcasts will continue at 8:30 & 9:45 Sunday morning on KLFD.

~Co-op activities of each church should be shared with the other congregations. If you have something that may interest the community, please contact the church office.

*****Team Reports:**

***Worship & Music:**

(Worship & Music Old Business)

~Meeker County Fair Service will be held Sunday August 6th at the fairgrounds band shell. Time TBD. Pastor Tom & Pastor Mark will conduct the service. Carol will provide the Co-op team for music.

(Worship & Music New Business)

~Sunday July 2nd services will be held at the Beckville Picnic grounds on Lake Minnie Belle at 10:45. The Cedar Creek band will provide the music. Co-op churches will make a donation to the band for their service. A potluck lunch will follow the service. No services at FLC that Sunday.

~The CD player in the sound booth is not working properly. A discussion pertaining to replacement options took place. Decision TBD at future meetings.

General Fund :

Total Income for the month of May 2023: \$23,677
 Expenses for the month of May 2023: \$33,992

Year to Date:

Income as of May 2023: \$209,505
 Expenses as of May 2023: \$190,767

- ~A discussion took place regarding if there should be a fee for recordings provided for weddings, funerals etc.
- ~A discussion also took place regarding suggested amounts for honorariums for weddings, funerals etc. for organist/pianist, soloist, sound team, janitorial, Pastors etc. The funeral homes are requesting updated amounts for guidance to families.
- ~No team meeting in July.

*Endowment:

~The Endowment team had their annual meeting with their financial advisor and have made a few minor changes to accounts per their recommendation.

*Council Old Business:

~God's Work Our Hands was discussed. Co-op members from Cosmos and Beckville are working on planning a project that can include members from FLC. Please contact the Church office if you have any suggestions for other projects for this event. The GWOH projects will take place in Cosmos. There will be services at FLC that Sunday as usual.

~There is an effort to create a Church Directory of members to coincide with the 150th Anniversary. The Council agreed to move forward with the directory and suggested that we ask for volunteers from the congregation to help organize this process. A photographer has been contacted and is willing to work with FLC on this project. This will be an on-line version of the Church Directory and we will be able to update it as needed.

~The account known as the Putzier Fund for property upkeep has been transferred to the Ameriprise office in Hutchinson due to a change in providers at the Litchfield office.

*Council New Business:

~August 1st will be the National Night Out event. FLC will again be serving hotdogs, water etc. at Central Park at 5:00. There is no charge for the food or the event.

~Team meetings will be held on August 8th (vs. August 1st) due to the National Night Out event.

~Bea has announced her retirement as the organist for First Lutheran Church after 58 years of service. There will be a celebration for Bea on August 20th. Bea will still perform at the 150th celebration service on August 27th. Carol Dragt will take over the organist role in the interim until a replacement is found.

*Prayer requests were taken

*Closing prayer was heard and the meeting was adjourned

***Dates to remember:

*Coop services continue virtually on Sunday's at 8:30 AM

*Radio broadcasts on KLF D are heard Sundays at 8:30 & 9:45

*In person services Sunday's at 9:00 AM

*No Team meetings in July

*No Council meeting in July

*Sunday July 2nd service at Beckville Picnic grounds at 10:45 / Potluck to follow / No service at FLC

*Sunday July 16th Co-op service at Cosmos City Park at 9:30 (Cosmos Space Festival) /No service at FLC

*National Night Out Tuesday August 1st at 5:00 / FLC will be at Central Park

*Executive Team meeting Tuesday August 8th at 6:30 PM

*Team meetings Tuesday August 8th at 7:00 PM

*Council meeting Tuesday August 15th at 7:00 PM

Submitted as un-approved minutes by Dennis Gartner

Churchwide



FUNERALS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Donald "Don" R. Worden
June 10, 2023

Please keep his family and friends
in your prayers.



MST-2024 is selling
tickets to the
**Meeker County Master
Gardeners Garden Tour!!**

This year's Garden Tour will be on
Tuesday, July 11th
from 5 - 8:30 p.m.
and will include
5 different gardens!!

**Tickets are \$10
and will be
available for purchase
in the church office or with
MST 2024 Youth.**



United in Marriage

**Congratulations to
Courtney & Rick Magedanz**



who were united in marriage
At FLC
on Saturday, May 27, 2023.

GARDEN PRODUCE SHARING

The Social Ministry Team invites you to drop off or
pick up fresh garden veggies and fruit during the
summer and fall growing season. Let us once again
share our produce with one another!

*A table is located in the southeast
(Sunday School) entrance.*

Thanks to all who participated last season.
Enjoy the harvest!

MEMORIALS, GIFTS & THANKS

A gift was given to Lutheran World Relief in celebration of the **150th Anniversary** of the church and in remembrance with love for my 40 kinfolk buried in the Ripley Cemetery and our three pastors born in Sweden, Rev. Otto Hallberg, who died at age 40 while serving the church, Rev. Linner and Rev. Franzen who served here 20 years. His foot stone reads *“Only one life will soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last”* from Carol Rowell.

Gifts were given to the General fund, Blessing Box fund and Roof Top Unit fund in memory of Martin “Pete” Oldenburg by Jerry and Lana Johnson, John and Shirley Lekander, and Chuck and Karen Eberhard.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of Jean Hoyer (She would have been 81 on June 13th) by Lisa Hoyer.

A gift was given to the Roof Top fund in celebration of the **150th Anniversary** of the church and in honor of Pastor Daniel Buendorf and his wife Sandra Buendorf from Carol Rowell.

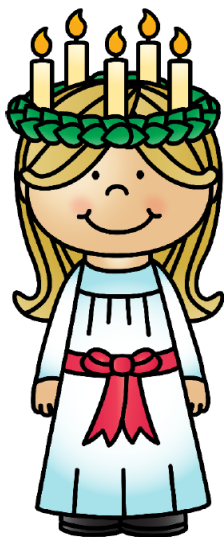
Gifts were given to the General fund and Roof Top Unit fund in memory of Chuck Voigt and Donald Worden, brother and nephew of Laurie Boll, by Charlie and Jo Ann Lindstrom, Kirk and Dorothy Lundin, and Dianne Thorp.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of Don Worden by Valda Thomas.

A gift was given to the Quilters group to celebrate the **150th Anniversary** of the church and in honor of Marilyn Swanson for making the beautiful quilt hanging in the sanctuary and Rick Sandry for making the black walnut 150th hanging in Chilstrom Hall. In Swedish *“Tack sa mycket”* to you both from Carol Rowell.

SPECIAL THANKS

To my wonderful church family, Thank you very much for all the beautiful cards I received and for all of your prayers. Special thank you to Pastor Tom for his visits and for the beautiful purple shawl I received. Thank you again, I’ve been blessed. Gladys Johnson



VOLUNTEERS:

Get involved with these volunteer Opportunities:

- ◇ **Lucia Breakfast Coordinators**

You will work as a team - We have three openings for the Lucia Breakfast Coordinator.

This is the main fund-raiser for WELCA.

Please let the Church office or WELCA know if you are interested. Thank you!!



MST 2024 - Braga, Portugal

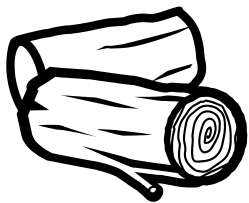
Please help support them at the following events:



FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

Sunday July 9,
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Chilstrom Hall
Free Will donation

Thank you to everyone who signed up for donations of milk, butter, syrup, and orange juice. Donations can be dropped off in the church kitchen by Noon on Friday July 7th.



FIREWOOD

Did you know that the MST group has a supply of firewood at the Lake Ripley Campground? You can support our group by purchasing a bundle or two when you are camping or if you just need some wood for a campfire on your own property! Wood costs \$5 per bundle and can be found in a shed located in the middle of the campground.

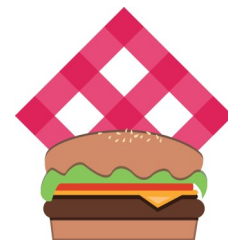
MEEKER COUNTY FAIR - MST FOOD STAND

August 2 - 6, 2023



Please start thinking ahead on how you can help us at the fair. We are looking for food donations and workers to help make and serve food.

Look for the Volunteer sign-up sheets in Chilstrom Hall in July.



Thank you for all of your support! We greatly appreciate all that you do for us!

We could not get there without your support! ~MST 2024



Placing ourselves completely into God's hands can be challenging. If you need help in that area, pray these words from Thomas à Kempis: "Lord, you know what is best. May your will decide what shall be done. Give what you will, how much you will and when you will. Do what you know is best for me. Do what pleases you and brings your name most honor.

"Put me where you will, and deal with me in all things as you please. I am in your hand — turn me backwards and forwards, turn me upside down. Here I am, your servant, ready for anything, for I have no desire to live for myself but only to live perfectly and worthily for you."

Newsletter May 2023

Dear friends,

Early in May I was able to visit our companions in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (ELCM) and to see the work of the church supporting communities affected by Cyclone Freddy.

Tropical Cyclone Freddy was the longest-lasting and most powerful cyclone ever recorded. Hardest-hit was southern Malawi where incessant rains caused catastrophic flash floods. The death toll is over 1200 with several hundred still missing.

Rev. Innocent Nangwale, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi Dean of Blantyre, said, "Everyone was afraid during the torrential rains, wondering what would happen that day and the next."

There was also widespread loss of crops and livestock as well as damage to thousands of homes. Hundreds of people sheltered in government-provided "camps" (schools, halls or large tents).



We visited Bvumbwe Parish, to see cyclone damage to the church, which was only completed last year. For now, the congregation is worshipping in a nearby school as they prepare to rebuild the collapsed walls.

In Blantyre we met ELCM presiding bishop Joseph Bvumbwe at the church guest house, which is being used as a temporary storage for bags of maize, soy, beans and salt for distribution to affected families in the area. One 25kg (55lb) bag of maize costs about \$30. Each family will receive half a bag which may last 5-6 days. The Bishop noted that it was not enough but that it was a sign of support and encouragement

and referred to Job 14:7, "For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again."

Around Phalombe and Zomba we visited several cyclone-affected communities being assisted by the Evangelical Lutheran Development Services (ELDS) led by director Dickens Mtonga and his project officers. We saw how crops ready for harvest along the river had been swept away. Fortunately, the project's sweet potato seed-bank plot was still intact and is being used to plant new crops in the place of the lost corn crop. Also, mustard greens were planted as a fast growing vegetable to fill the food gap. The community sang songs welcoming the visitors and a short drama was performed promoting the work of the Self Help Groups (SHG's) in improving livelihoods, food security and resilience in the community.

Local community leaders and SHG members thanked the ELCM, ELDS and the ELCA for their accompaniment and asked for continuing support. (ELCA Service and Justice has approved funding support for Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) applications from the ELCM, ELDS and ACT Alliance)

Thank you for your prayers, support and participation in God's Mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa
May 8, 2023



Churchwide



The Annual Quilt Auction is Green Lake Lutheran Ministries' largest fundraiser of the year - and a great time! Every year, over 200 quilts and Silent Auction items are donated and then auctioned off to support the ministry happening at camp. Under a tent on the shores of Green Lake over the course of a weekend, guests and donors enjoy the auction, meals, homemade doughnuts, live music and more. Tens of thousands of dollars are raised in an afternoon, supporting the ministry of GLLM. This event has created memories for so many staff alumni, camper families, neighbors, and donors over the years. If you are interested in supporting this event or volunteering, please contact Kirsten Palan, Director of Development, at 320-796-2181 or kpalan@gllm.org

The Annual Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Quilt Auction events:

Friday July 21:

Quilt Review - 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m./Admission \$3 per person

Hotdish Supper - 4:30 - 7:00 p.m./ \$9 per person

Beachfront Concert with The Root Beer Choir 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Fresh Doughnuts and Concessions available throughout the weekend!

Saturday July 22:

Quilt Review 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bounce House 10:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Pulled Pork Lunch - 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. / \$9 per person

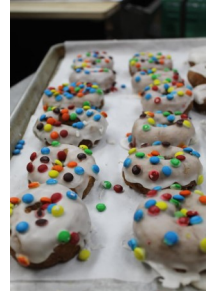
Live Auction begins - 12:00 p.m.

Silent Auction Closes - 4:00 p.m.

On-Line Quilt Auction closes - 5:00 p.m.

Meals \$9.00 per person

Quilt Review \$3.00 per person



All Events take place at Green Lake Bible Camp— 9916 Lake Avenue S. Spicer, Minnesota

ONE AUCTION, FOUR SECTIONS

The Quilt Auction at Green Lake Bible Camp has grown over the years, requiring us to break the auction into smaller sections. They are as follows:

- **Live Quilt Auction:** the first 100 or so quilts are auctioned off live, in-person under the tent by Green Lake on Saturday, July 22 beginning at 12:00 PM.
- **Online Quilt Auction:** the remainder of the quilts are auctioned off online using GiveSmart, beginning Sunday, July 16 until Saturday, July 22 at 5:00 PM.
- **Hybrid Silent Auction:** bidding for the Silent Auction is done online using GiveSmart as well, beginning Sunday, July 16 until Saturday, July 22 at 4:00 PM.
- **Instant Item Sale:** these items are purchased outright rather than auctioned off. These can be purchased online using GiveSmart or in-person at Green Lake Bible Camp. Most of these items are one-of-a-kind - if you see something you like, it's best to snatch it up!

All items are available on display in the Chrysalis House at Green Lake Bible Camp, beginning Friday, July 21 at 3:00 PM! Online bidding and viewing access will be available beginning July 16.

July 2023 Calendar

July 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 S. Sibley Ave. Litchfield, MN	320-693-2487					1 8:00 a.m. Men's Group
2 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop/Radio 10:45 a.m. ELCA COOP Worship at Lake Minnie Belle, (Beckville picnic grounds) Pot-luck meal following service **No service held at FLC	3	4th of July Holiday Church office closed	5 No Wed. Evening Worship Service	6 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFDRadio 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	7	8
9 8:00 a.m. - 12 p.m. MST 2024 French Toast Breakfast, Chilstrom Hall 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop/Radio 9:00 a.m. Worship Service	10 5:00 p.m. MST-USA Mtg.	11 7:00 a.m. Brew, Chil- strom 8:00 a.m. Brew, On-line 5:00 - 8:30 p.m. Garden Tour 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel	12 9:00 a.m. Staff Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Worship with Communion in Chapel	13 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFDRadio 12:00 - 6:30 p.m. 4-H (All Day Event) Presentations & Judging	14 9:30 a.m. Christian Women's Meeting 2:30 p.m. Visitation 3:30 p.m. Funeral, Florence Roeszler	15 8:00 a.m. Men's Group 9:30 a.m. Coop Worship Band Practice 5:00 p.m. Movie Night, Holy Word Theater
16 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop/Radio 9:30 a.m. ELCA COOP Worship in Cosmos, City Park **No service held at FLC 1:00 p.m. Widow's Grief Support	17	18 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel	19 9:00 a.m. Staff Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Worship with Communion in Chapel	20 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFDRadio 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	21 2:30 p.m. Lutheran Men in Mission Golf Tournament, Redwood Falls Golf Club 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Quilt Review, GLLM, Spicier MN	22 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Quilt Auction and activities, GLLM, Spicier MN
23 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop/Radio 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee MST-USA leave for Nashville	24	25 6:30 p.m. NA - Chapel	26 9:00 a.m. Staff Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Worship / Chapel	27 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" on KLFDRadio 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	28 MST-USA return from Nashville	29 8:00 a.m. Men's Group 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Chilstrom Hall, private family event
30 8:30 a.m. ELCA Coop/Radio 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee	31	Pastor Tom is on vacation, June 30 - July 10 He will travel to Nashville with MST-USA July 23 - 28				

Serving Group & Birthdays

JULY 2023 SERVING GROUP	Gary & Lori Larson
Chairs:	Tyler & Jordyn Larson
Ruth Massingham	Daniel & Heather Lease
James & Elaine Lenhard	David & Deanna Lease
Ben Kranz & Chelsea Snodgrass	Jonathan & Penny Lease
Kathy Kronbeck	John & Shirley Lekander
Russell & Shirley Kronbeck	Allen and Dana Liestman
Todd & Sarah Kuechle	Charlie & JoAnn Lindstrom
Allene Lachelt	Ramona Lohse
Tony Laidlaw	Craig & Gina Lokken
Janet Lange	Sadie Ludowese
Michael & Debra Langmo	Jennifer Lundin
Bryan & Linda Larson	Robert & Amy Nelson

July Ushers
9:00 a.m.
 Ken Braseth – C
 Tim Matheson
 Mike Langmo
 Dalen Jones
 Karen Johnson
 Meredith Elj


July



Open



It is
God
 who
works
 in you.



Philippians
 2:13, ESV

JULY 1
 Lukas Christians
 David Meidal
 Marie Solem
JULY 2
 Everett Snodgrass
 Jacob Jones
 Jody Stradtmann
JULY 3
 Jeffrey Daly
 Janet Lundin
JULY 4
 Wendy Danzeisen
 Elijah Michaletz
 Grace Spanos
 Bryan Thiele
JULY 5
 Elijah Banks
JULY 6
 Michael Cziok
 Clinton Hannes
 Jane Hulterstrum
 Daniel Lease
 Matthew Thomas
JULY 7
 Emma DeWolf
 Scarlett Schave


JULY 8
 Sheila Krohse
 Wayne Elam
 Katie Hulterstrum
 Wesley Nelson
 Ross Seifert
 Kristine Zeppelin
JULY 9
 Whitney Dolan
 David Langmo
 Renae Olson
JULY 10
 John Anderson
 Jo Carlson
 Dean Helstrom
 Alyssa Riebe
 Devin Zeppelin
JULY 11
 Troy Anderson
 Kierra Lease
 Matthew Worden
JULY 12
 Carli Christensen
 Peter Hyberger
 Parker Laidlaw
 Nellya Nelson

JULY 13
 Declan Berube
 Brady Birch
 Paul Garrison
 Paul Harvego
 Dana Liestman
 Tiffany Husmann Mohr
 Jackie Kraushaar
 Remington Zeppelin
JULY 14
 Lauren Block
 Tait Christensen
 Brecklyn Geisler
 Alyssa Riebe
 Avasynn Rodriguez
 Corey Rueckert
JULY 15
 Stephanie Nelson
 Morgan Polzin
JULY 16
 Michael Pierce
JULY 17
 Carter Block
 Kristen Farmer
 Andrew Fruetel
 Carolyn Vollmer
 Theodore Whitcomb

JULY 18
 Nick Benson
 Alicia Findley
 Robert Hall
 Marlaina Mahlow
JULY 19
 Natalie Berglund
 James Cottington
 Levi Cottington
 Kurt Gartner
 Shasta Rueckert
 LeeAnn Hanson
 Andrew Zilch
JULY 20
 Ellainey Kinzer
 Aric Kleinschmidt
JULY 21
 Breanna Berry
 Steve Dengerud
 Logan Nelson
 Alexxis Trettin
JULY 22
 Heather Lease
 Jeffery Lundin
 Mason Peterson
JULY 23
 Mike Forster
 Marlene Herzog
 Jennifer Lundin

JULY 24
 Emma Doty
 Erick Garrison
JULY 25
 Hayley Polzin
JULY 26
 Meredith Elj
 Leann Hanson
JULY 27
 Dennis Gartner
 Delphine Kelly
JULY 28
 Mark Erickson
 Sandra Gruenke
 Caleb Herzog
JULY 29
 Beau Hanson
 Courtney Hanson
 Cassandra Justison
 Mathew Lease
 Ashley Muchow
JULY 30
 Ryan Hickman
 Diane Konietzko
 Wayne Larson
 Gavin Nelson
JULY 31
 Helen Baldwin
 Caroline Desens
 Terry Driver

Senior Dining Menu

Monday, July 3	Tuesday, July 4	Wednesday, July 5	Thursday, July 6	Friday, July 7
Salisbury Steak w/Gravy	Taco Salad	Chicken Salad	Smoothered Pork Loin	
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy	Salsa/Sour Cream	Sandwich	Scalloped Potatoes	
Green Beans	Corn Chips	Cucumber and Tomato Salad	Carrots	
Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Apple	Tropical Fruit	Bread w/Margarine	
Orange	Dessert	Low Fat Milk	Dessert	
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	
Monday, July 10	Tuesday, July 11	Wednesday, July 12	Thursday, July 13	Friday, July 14
Parmesan Chicken	Tater Tot Casserole	Ham Pasta Salad	Turkey & Gravy over	Sweet and Sour Meatballs
Green Beans	Mixed Vegetables	Creamy Cucumbers	Mashed Potatoes	Brown Rice
Fruit Cocktail	Warm Peaches	Cantaloupe	Peas and Carrots	Carrots
Bread Stick	Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Dessert	Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread/Margarine
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Warm Fruit Crisp	Dessert
			Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, July 17	Tuesday, July 18	Wednesday, July 19	Thursday, July 20	Friday, July 21
Chef Choice Entrée	Pasta w/Meat Sauce	Teriyaki Chicken	Pork Loin	Chicken Pasta Salad
Vegetable	Romaine Salad w/Dressing	Rice	Yams	Sliced Cucumbers
Vegetable/Fruit	Pears	Carrots	Broccoli	Fruit Salad
Bread	Texas Toast	Pineapple	Bread w/Margarine	Dessert
Dessert	Cookie	Low Fat Milk	Dessert	Low Fat Milk
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk		Low Fat Milk	
Monday, July 24	Tuesday, July 25	Wednesday, July 26	Thursday, July 27	Friday, July 28
Goulash	Biscuit w/Sausage Gravy	Sloppy Joe on Bun	Roasted Turkey w/ Gravy	Ham & Turkey Chef Salad
Corn	Roasted Potatoes	Au Gratin Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes	Bread Stick
Tropical Fruit	Cinnamon Apple Slices	Baked Beans	Green Beans	Fresh Orange
Bread w/Margarine	Dessert	Fresh Fruit	Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Dessert	Low Fat Milk
			Low Fat Milk	
Monday, July 31st				
Chicken Fried Steak w/Gravy	<h1 style="color: red; margin: 0;">July 2023</h1> <h2 style="color: red; margin: 0;">LSS Meals Traditional Older Adult Menu</h2>			
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy				
Carrots				
Dinner Roll w/Margarine				
Fruit				
Low Fat Milk				
<p>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. Additional funds are provided by the State of Minnesota, United Ways, local communities and other adult contributions.</p> <p>The posted menu is for a traditional diet. Diabetic friendly, reduced sodium and fat restricted diet menus are available upon request. The traditional menu provides an average of 700-800 calories per meal.</p> <p>If you are interested in learning about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), please call 800.488.4146.</p>				
			<p>Menu is subject to change.</p>	
<p>Approved by Donna Dunlap RD, LD SNAP or EBT payment is accepted.</p>				

320-693-6203

Youth Pages

June 2023 VBS

This year we had some of our young adults plan and lead our Vacation Bible School. Lauren Block, Emma DeWolf, Kamri Driver, and Cassie Justison were wonderful leaders. One of them said that it was fun to “give back because this church gave so much to me.” We also had some of our pre-confirmation students come and help Emma Defries, Lucy Bloomberg, and Ryan Block.

Next, our theme was Western and we did some crafts and games that went along with this. We tied dyed bandanas and made vests of many colors to name a couple of crafts. We did barrel racing and many relays. We also had many western meals of hotdogs and mac and cheese.

Finally our Bible Story was based on Joseph and his multicolored coat. We broke the story into three parts and focused on jealousy, forgiveness, relationships, and God's special gift to Joseph and how it was used.

Overall it was a great three days and the children left asking for more.

Sincerely,
Heidi Thoma



2023 Confirmation Camp | June 11 - 15, 2023 | Camp House, Brimson, Minnesota
Top Middle Photo: Pastor Tom Evenson, Emma Defries, Tyson Anderson, Breck Barrick, and Ryan Block



WELCA MINUTES JUNE 15, 2023

WELCA met on June 15 2023, in Chilstrom Hall with Betty Allen calling the meeting to order. The Purpose Statement was recited. Devotions were given by Betty.

The May meeting was spent cleaning the kitchen so there were no minutes.

Karen Eberhard gave the treasurer's report for June 2023. Lana Johnson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report with a second by Jackie Kraushaar.

Old Business: The Blessing Box needs more donations. It is used very frequently and items go fast. It has been monitored and people are not abusing it, there is just a lot of need especially since Hope for the City is no longer supplying the weekly food. Individual serving items are in high demand. Cash donations are welcome and will be used for purchasing additional items if you would prefer not to shop for the items.

New Business: The WELCA Fall Gathering will be held at First on Saturday, September 30th. The major part of the meeting, was spent on planning the Fall Gathering. The speaker will be Naomi Mahler. We will be serving egg bake, muffins or rolls (TBD), fruit and juice. Pastor will be leading the devotions. We need table decorations and asked Velda to help with that. Volunteers for making the egg bake are Norma, Marilyn, Lana, Dorothy, Betty and Sue. If we need muffins, they will be provided by Kris, Karen, Dee and Iris. Betty will check on purchasing cut up fruit from a couple places. We plan on serving between 60 and 90 women. The conference will donate \$6 per person for serving the breakfast and hosting the convention. Name tags are needed and greeters will be decided next month.

Dates to Remember: July 20th – 1:30 p.m. WELCA meeting
Aug. 27th – **150th Celebration.** Free meal serving meatballs or turkey
Please call the church and make a RESERVATION for dinner. Guests are welcome! Just make a reservation!!

Thanks to Jackie and Betty for serving dessert. Next month Norma and Valda will serve.

The Lord's Prayer was recited and the table prayer was recited.
Meeting adjourned and our project is putting in the ties in for the school bags.

Respectively submitted,

Sue Lemmer, Secretary



July 2023 Worship Schedule

Sunday, July 2, 2023 *ELCA COOP

10:45 a.m. ELCA Co-op Worship
@ Beckville Picnic Grounds, Lake Minne
Belle with Cedar Creek Gospel Band.
Potluck meal following worship.

No Service held at FLC

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

No Evening Worship Service held at FLC

Sunday, July 9, 2023

8 am - Noon MST-2024 French Toast
Breakfast, Chilstrom Hall
9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Sunday, July 16, 2023 *ELCA COOP

9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Comm.
@ Cosmos City Park

No Service held at FLC

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Sunday, July 23, 2023

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

6:30 p.m. Worship *no comm.* - Chapel

Sunday, July 30, 2023

9:00 a.m. Worship w/comm.
10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour



Lutheran Men In Mission

29th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, July 21st - Registration begins at 2:30 p.m.

Redwood Falls Golf Club

Call the church office by Monday July 17th if you
are interested in attending. Thank you

Preparation for worship

Whether my prayer today is "How long, O Lord? Will you
forget me forever?" or "My heart shall rejoice in your salva-
tion" (Psalm 13:1, 5, NRSV), you hear me, God. Thank you.

Ever aware of my flaws and failures, as I prepare for worship
I pray with St. Paul, "Thanks be to God, who delivers me
through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:25, NIV).

Open my heart and all my senses to receive your Word
today, dear Lord.

As harvest time draws near in the northern hemisphere, we
thank you, Holy Spirit, for cultivating our lives to bear good
fruit that serves your kingdom.

Jesus, show me who needs a special word of friendship
today so I may share your lovingkindness with them. Amen.

MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, June 17, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Holy Word Theater, FLC

Movie: TBD....

Please join us for a good movie and popcorn.

Please bring your own beverage.

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
Thu.	11 a.m. Encore Pres.	Sun. Trinity G.C.
Thu.	3 p.m. Encore Presentation	Sun. FLC
Fri.	11 a.m. Encore Presentation	Sun. Zion

150th Anniversary

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



YOUR STORY MATTERS

1 Corinthians 16:14
“Let all that you do be done in love.”

Anniversary Hymn
“I Love to Tell The Story”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023

January 15 @ 4:00 pm
Candlelight church service
Pastor Christa Forsythe preaching
Potluck supper to follow

March 19 @ 9:00 am
Bishop Dee Pederson preaching
Swedish breakfast @ 10:00 a.m.

May 7 @ 9:00 am
Pastor Buendorf preaching
Swedish sweets @ 10:00 a.m.

August 13 @ 1:00 pm
Minnesota BoyChoir
Music Concert
Ice cream to follow

August 20
Laying of cemetery flowers

August 27 150th Anniversary Sunday
*Worship Service @ 9:00 a.m.
Pastor Tom Evenson preaching
*Congregational Group Photo following service
*Free formal catered congregational meal

R.S.V.P. by August 11, 2023
150th Anniversary Celebration
on Sunday, August 27, 2023.

Starting with our 9 a.m. Worship Service with communion, a Congregational group photo and a **free meal**. The sign up sheets are in the Narthex or the church office. Thank you!

1943

- The 70th Anniversary of the congregation was observed on All Saint's Day, Nov 7th. A blizzard raged all day, blocking roads, resulting in small attendance. **Dr. Emil Swenson**, President of the Augustana Conference, was installed with his car in a snow-drift east of Cokato and was unable to attend. The afternoon anniversary service speakers were **Dr. Conrad Peterson** from Gustavus Adolphus College and **Rev. Arthur Pearson** of Oakland, Nebraska.
- Average attendance was 151
- Ladies Aid President was **Mrs. O. G. Nordlie**. 81 active members and 11 honorary.
- Luther League was led by **Judith Warren**
- Men's Club President was **Sigfrid W. Johnson**
- Women's Missionary Society President was **Mrs. Reuben Emerson** and membership was 74.
- Those celebrating the Rite of Confirmation on May 23rd were: **Robert Almgren, Mary Anderson, Eleanor Albright, Judith Warren, Mark Jorgenson, Doris Anderson, Virginia Chilstrom, Genevieve Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Arlene Isaacson, Eugene Anderson, James Johnson, John Lund, Mary Ann Manning, Jerome Palmer, Eldon Swanson, Rose Toland and Grace Bergstrom.**
- Sunday School was held an hour before the morning worship.
- Vacation Bible School was held June 14 to July 2 with forty six children in attendance.
- Three music groups, Church Choir (26 members), Ladies Sextettes, and the Junior Chorus (28 members) enhanced the programs at First Lutheran.
- A Welfare Committee was appointed by the Church Council to care for the needy and sick.
- 457 communicant members.



MEMORIES FROM EARLY YEARS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Esther Settergren, who was our 2nd Grade school teacher was also superintendent of Primary Dept. A pillar in the church her entire life.

A nickel for the offering tied in the corner of a handkerchief for safe keeping.

A missionary speaker on furlough speaking to children.

Mildred Hummel a very dedicated S.S. teacher who helped us memorize Catechism.

Mrs. Bergren, the Pastors wife as our S. S. teacher prior to confirmation. We met in the small, narrow kitchen in the old church. Another wonderful teacher.

Missionary Band for youngsters that met on Sat. at church, rolled bandages, etc.

After we were confirmed in 9th Grade, we automatically taught S. S. and sang in Senior Choir.

Luther Anns, young womens group, met in homes, don't recall what we did.

LATER YEARS

Turkey dinner served by Men's club.

Smorgasbord- main money maker for Ladies Aid-many authentic dishes served. When it was DC, the Harvest Fest was originated in its place.

Couples Club-met in homes and church, a rather "dress-up" occasion with punch, catered meal and program.

Getting the new red hymnal-anticipating that change and since have had the green and now the cranberry hymnal. More changes we have survived.

Women ordained into the ministry.

Sharon Johnson

150th Anniversary

When Herb Chilstrom was in seminary, he would preach on ^{<12} occasion in Litchfield and at that time the Pastor also had a country church which was Ostmark. Four of us young girls went with Herb when he went to Ostmark as one of the girls was Herb's sister Janet who was a very good friend of mine. If I remember correctly, 3 girls sang and I played the piano for them. During our "performance" we did our best to not get the giggles.

Memorizing 62 Bible verses as part of our Confirmation instruction. I think we had a public exam in front of the congregation.

Our oldest daughter, Jill, started school at church, as Kindergarten was held there due to lack of space at school. The teacher was Jean Rice, a very dedicated and wonderful person, Blessed be her memory.

Sharon Johnson

"Capturing the Story"



The Lenten Giving Cross

In 2010 Dianne Thorp asked me if I would like to be involved in the Lenten Giving Cross project that prepares Personal Care and Baby Care kits for Lutheran World Relief. She and Liz Engfer had been doing this for 14 years and were needing to step down. Dianne would work with me for this first year. Little did I know what a fun way this would be to do mission work for First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Litchfield, MN. Every year during the Lenten season I always took a few cards off the "giving tree". I would purchase soap, toothbrushes, etc. and simply put them in the basket at the bottom of the tree. I didn't know how important that really was in extending a helping hand to people around the world.

Becoming part of this project became a great opportunity for me to meet workers in various thrift and second hand stores as I developed a circuit in looking for previous worn baby clothing. They soon learned that I was not purchasing items for new grandchildren but for mission work in providing baby care kits for mothers in need of basic items needed for a new baby. Little did I know that diapers could be made from men's large t-shirts. Personal care kits consisting of a bath towel, soap, a comb, a toothbrush & a nail clipper are assembled to give adults personal hygiene items. How simple is that making someone feel good and let them know that God loved them enough to inspire someone they don't know provide that need? The kit ministry extends God's loving care to people in their darkest hours.

In assembling the kits ladies at FLC gather for not only doing that work but for fellowship and getting to know each other while doing the work that the Lord has asked us to do in his name. Please know that by you taking a card off the Lenten Giving Cross that you do make a difference in our church, community and the world.

Joanne Miller, Co-Chair



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 Oldenburg, and Vern and Lil Madson;

Master Sgt. Austin Kleinschmidt, 934th Airwing, Minneapolis, son of Kipp and Lynette Kleinschmidt;

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

Eric Kammermeier, Chief Petty Officer HSC-23, United States Navy, son-in-law of Mike and Beth Boyle;

Airman 1st Class John Rogers, Beale Air Force Base, CA. Grandson of Janet Lange.

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 addresses have changed for any of the above.

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING: MST — Costa Rica



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!!

Save your greeting cards!

They can be recycled! They will take the whole card or you can cut off the signed names, if you wish. I will drop them off at the Senior Center in Hutchinson. ****No Christmas Cards please.**
Thank you! Elaine Lenhard

Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers,

Meeker Manor: Lois Rusch

Emmaus Place: Mae Brehmer

Bethany Home: Janet Lundin, Hazel Wittenberg

Litchfield, in own home: Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller

Lakeside, Dassel: Edna Oldenburg

Hiltop Health Care, Watkins: Vern Madson



Widow's Grief Support Gathering

First Lutheran Church:

Sunday July 16, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Open to all women whose spouse has died, whether the death was a month ago or 18 years ago.

Sharing and support for healing and strength is the mission of the group.

Call the church office for more details. 320-693-2487



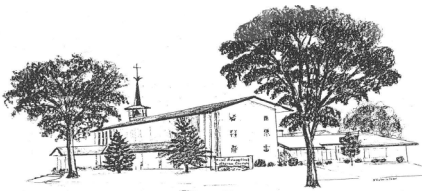
WELCA MEETING @ FLC

Thursday, July 20, 2023

1:30 p.m.

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 **July 15th**
For the **NEXT ISSUE: August 2023**



FIRST NEWS

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First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

LIKE us on Facebook!
Or Follow us on Youtube!



Sunday, July 2, 2023

10:45 AM

ELCA CO-OP

Worship Service at Lake Minnie Belle with
the Cedar Creek Gospel Band.

Beckville Church Picnic Grounds
61356 194th St, Litchfield, MN 55355

Pot-luck meal following worship.

Bring your lawn chairs.

