

FIRST NEWS

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

JANUARY 2024

January 2024 Time with Tom

It is a new year and with that, brings many opportunities. Opportunities for us in building new relationships, in renewing old relationships and in building on current relationships. Relationships broken with one another and with God since the Garden of Eden need restoration. Each year we can look back and see what went well and what went not so well. We are all in a relationship with God, good or bad, it is still a relationship, whether we acknowledge it or not. While we look back this year, try to look back to the last time you remember being in a good relationship with God. How did life appear to be? Were you in other good relationships at the same time? Usually that happens. Good relationship with God, leads us into other good relationships. In order to be in a good relationship with someone it takes work from both sides. It is not a relationship when it is one sided. It takes at least two individuals to build and retain every relationship. At times it feels as if our relationship with God is one sided, and that feeling comes from the understanding of humans who need more than just being heard, but also to hear a response. We speak and are spoken too in a good relationship; usually the responses come immediately after we stop speaking.

Our relationship with God is different in that respect, and we may have difficulty understanding the relationship is real. God is fully in a relationship with any who want that from God. The Holy Bible does not use the word relationship but instead God spoke a covenant to the people and to all creation. After the flood, in rebuilding a relationship with creation, God said to Noah and to his sons with him. *9"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, 10and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark."* Because of the love God has for all creation, God initiates and keeps covenant with us, even when we break covenant. When the New Year begins, remind yourselves of the great love of God and the covenant, which will not be broken by God. That covenant of life, love and relationship will last forever. Build human relationships this year that can last a lifetime and know that God is with you always in relationship. Amen 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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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

Church Council

**“GOD’S WORK.
OUR HANDS.”**

**First Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council
2024**

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:
Gordon Burdick
Meredith Elj
Mike Langmo

Personnel:
Corey Cervin

MST:
Karla Kadelbach
Amy Nelson
Joe Berube

First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Council Minutes
Tuesday, December 19th, 2023

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 Joe Berube & Andy Miller

*Devotions: Dennis Gartner

*Secretary report was approved.

*Treasurer’s report was approved.

*****Pastor Tom reported:**

~MST International (Braga Portugal) update: The trip is scheduled for July 20th through August 6th 2024. Working with Fuller Center to finalize itinerary.

~The Lutefisk Dinner did not produce as many diners as hoped. This event did not prove to be a good fundraiser for the MST group.

~The Call Committee for the Associate Pastor position is moving forward in a positive direction.

~Co-op Pastors are meeting weekly. They are helping Trinity as they seek to find an interim pastor. Pastor Tom recently officiated a funeral to help them through this time.

~The Widow’s Grief Support group meets twice a month on the first and third Sundays at 1:00 PM.

~Pastor Mark Little continues to meet with those unable to attend services in person. Pastor Tom also does these visits as needed. Extra effort is made to meet with the less mobile members during the holiday season.

~Pastor Tom continues his spiritual education visits with the young people at WINGS.

~The Co-op radio broadcasts will continue at 8:30 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 co-op community, please contact the church office.

~Pastor Tom is requesting vacation time January 8th through the 15th.

~The UCAP Holiday Project that took place in the FLC Sunday school/Assembly room went very well. UCAP staff were very appreciative of the space provided for this event. They left the area in better condition than they found it. Many members of the community were helped through this project.

*****Team Reports:**

***Church Property:**

~Some of the fire detection alarms in the Chilstrom Hall ceilings are in need of re-mounting. The custodial staff has temporarily repaired the issue. Future work will need to be completed.

~Cleaning of the kitchen ovens was discussed. It is believed this cleaning was to be done by the serving groups at the end of their month of service. We don’t believe this has been communicated to the serving group leaders. Dick Farmer will check with the custodial staff to see if they can add this to their duties on a regular basis.

~The team spent a portion of the meeting cleaning and organizing the boiler room. More organization, shelving etc. will be required.

***Christian Education:**

~A verbal report was given:

~The Sunday School Christmas program at the December 10th service went well.

~There was a fun activity time for the kids after the Christmas program.

~There will not be Sunday School on December 24th or 31st.

~Regular Sunday School will resume on January 7th.

~Green Lake Bible camp staff will be presenting at the January 14th service.

***Worship Team:**

~A verbal report was given:

(Worship: Old Business)

~Job descriptions were again discussed.

General Fund :

Total Income for the month of Nov. 2023: \$32,260

Expenses for the month of Nov. 2023: \$30,328

Year to Date:

Income as of November 2023: \$384,312

Expenses as of November 2023: \$375,712

~Christmas schedule was reviewed and confirmed.

(Worship: New Business)

~Co-op Ministry was discussed. In an effort to continue to share information between all of the co-op member churches, a suggestion was made to have one person from each church communicate any relevant information with the other churches.

*Council Old Business:

~Call committee for the Associate Pastor role continues to make progress.

~Bookkeeping progress was again discussed. The council discussed forming a committee to research if there are other bookkeeping software options that may serve our needs more efficiently. This will be added to the agenda for the January 2024 meeting.

~Budgets were again discussed and will be finalized as soon as possible.

~Follow up: This is still being clarified - A discussion took place regarding a question that arose about MST students and their age qualifications as to when they are eligible to participate in each MST trip. The council requested this to be clarified by the recently formed MST board for future reference.

*Council New Business:

~Annual meeting preparation was discussed.

~A motion was made and seconded to add two separate line items to the agenda for a congregational vote:

>1) Flooring for the lower level Sunday school/Assembly room (large area), choir robe room, library & the storage room/ quilting storage in Chilstrom Hall including labor & materials in the amount of \$32,000.

>2) Irrigation system for the church lawn including labor & materials in the amount of \$8,000.

>The motion passed.

~The logistics of collecting the offering from the front verses the back of the church was discussed. Opinions were shared and it was determined that this is not a council decision. The Worship team and ushers will determine this outcome.

~Newly required Paid Time Off (PTO), Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) was discussed. After discussion by the council, the council is requesting the advice of our payroll services provider in this matter.

*Prayer requests were taken.

*Closing prayer was heard and the meeting was adjourned

***Dates to remember:

*Coop services continue virtually on Sundays at 9:00 AM

*Radio broadcasts on KLFD are heard Sundays at 8:30 AM

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

*Confirmation classes continue Wednesdays at 6:00 PM with a meal

*Executive Team meeting Tuesday January 2nd at 6:30 PM

*Team meetings Tuesday January 2nd at 7:00 PM

*Council Meeting Tuesday January 16th at 7:00 PM

*Annual Meeting Sunday January 28th after the 9:00 AM service

Submitted as un-approved minutes by Dennis Gartner

Notice

First Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
will be held on
Sunday, January 28, 2024
10:00 a.m.

Happy New Year



SING UNTO THE LORD

a new song;
FOR HE HATH DONE
marvelous things.

PSALM 98:1, KJV

WELCA MINUTES DECEMBER 21, 2023

WELCA met on December 21, 2023, in Chilstrom Hall with Betty Allen calling the meeting to order. The Purpose Statement was read by Betty, followed by devotions.

The secretary's report was accepted as printed with a motion by Karen Eberhard and a second by Dee Bollin. The treasurer's report was approved as printed with a motion by Sue Lemmer and a second by Kris Nelson.

Old Business: The second Coop 'Tis the Season table setting was discussed. First will not be hosting it in 2024, and it will not be held unless another Coop church volunteers to organize the table setting and the program.

Lucia went smoothly, with help from a great group of workers! Lots of compliments were received, especially for the wonderful decorating that was done by Kris Cervin. The Lucia committee will be meeting to write up their final report and the treasurer will get the final numbers after all the bills have been paid and the \$20 cash donations have been received. It was brought up that we could use a new Lucia lighted crown as the one we have is very old.

New Business: Lana Johnson announced that volunteers are needed to take down the Christmas decorations on Jan. 7, 2024.

WELCA will **not** meet in January. Their next meeting is February 15th. Marlys Elam and Marilyn Swanson will serve.

Lana Johnson and Kris Nelson volunteered to serve treats at Emmaus in February. Betty Allen will call to get the entertainment.

A tentative date for WELCA to serve soup supper is March 6.

Reminder that the WELCA Handbook will be updated. Please volunteer to chair or co-chair a month.

The Lord's Prayer was recited.

Thank you to Sue Lemmer and Betty Allen for serving root beer floats!

Respectively submitted,

Sue Lemmer, Secretary



Decorated tables from 'Tis the Season



Worship Schedule

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Sunday, January 7, 2024

9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour
10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship - Chapel

Sunday, January 14, 2024

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

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Sunday, January 21, 2024

9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour
10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Sunday, January 28, 2024

9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting
No Sunday School

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/comm. - Chapel

Special Dates:

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2024*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2024*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 7, 2024*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 15, 2024*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *Jan. 18-25, '24*



Raymond Groskreutz
December 19, 2023

Please keep his family and friends
in your prayers.



MOVIE NIGHT
Saturday, January 20, 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

Churchwide

"Thank you to all our volunteers and to all those who made donations for the Lucia breakfast. A special thanks to Betty Allen, Sue Lemmer, Lana Johnson, Jackie Kraushaar, and Kris Cervin, for making the Lucia breakfast a huge success. We cannot do it without the help of our volunteers, and we thank everyone who assisted and attended. Yours in Christ, Lucia Chair, Nicole C. Geffre



MST –USA upcoming fundraising events....

February - Papa Murphy's Pizza

March - Butter Braids



BE COMPLETELY
humble & gentle;
BE PATIENT,
BEARING WITH
one another in love.
Ephesians 4:2, NIV



CONGRATULATIONS! Ethan Lease has been chosen to participate as a drummer in the Lutheran Youth Organization Praise Band! They will perform at MN gatherings in January and March and will then travel to the National ELCA Lutheran gathering in New Orleans, LA in July. The group is mentored by Pastor Hans Peterson of Dakota Road.



January 2024 Calendar

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Years Day Church office closed	2 7:00 a.m. Brew 8:30 a.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. Worship/M.M. 5:30 p.m. Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel 6:30 p.m. Executive Team 7:00 p.m. Team Meetings	3 4:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Worship/Chapel 7:00 p.m. Youth Study Group 7:00 p.m. Sr Choir Rehearsal	4 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	5	6
7 9:00 Worship w/Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 1:00 p.m. Grief Support	8	9 7:00 a.m. Brew 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel	10 4:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. *Worship/Chapel 7:00 p.m. Youth Study Group 7:00 p.m. Sr Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle	11 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	12	13 8:00 a.m. Men's Group
14 *9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School	15 9:30 a.m. Rachel Circle	16 7:00 a.m. Brew 8:30 a.m. LAMA Mtg. 9:00 a.m. Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel 7:00 p.m. Church Council Mtg.	17 4:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Worship/Chapel 7:00 p.m. Youth Study Group 7:00 p.m. Sr Choir Rehearsal	18 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD No WELCA Meeting 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	19	20 10:00 a.m. Visitation 11:00 a.m. Funeral for Harvey Graff 5:00 p.m. Movie Night. Holy Word Theater
21 9:00 Worship w/Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 1:00 p.m. Grief Support	22	23 7:00 a.m. Brew 8:30 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel	24 4:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Worship/Chapel 7:00 p.m. Youth Study Group 7:00 p.m. Sr Choir Rehearsal	25 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	26	27 8:00 a.m. Men's Group
28 9:00 Worship w/Communion 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting	29	30 7:00 a.m. Brew 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel	31 4:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Worship/Chapel 7:00 p.m. Youth Study Group 7:00 p.m. Sr Choir Rehearsal	*Pastor Tom will be on vacation January 8 – 15 th First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 South Sibley Ave Litchfield, MN 55355 320-693-2487		


Serving Group & Birthdays

JANUARY 2024 SERVING	
Chairs:	
Dorothy Euerle	
Susan Lemmer	
Trina Driver	Keith & Sabrara Evenson
Steve Durkee	Richard & Peggy Farmer
Mark & Jodi Elam	Robert & Judy Farmer
Marlys Elam	Chuck & Sue Fenton
Troy & Julie Elam	Brian & Jodi Findley
Nate & Meredith Elj	Tama Fisher
Ralph & Gloria Elj	Josh & Anna Fluck

January Ushers
9:00 a.m.

Daniel Lease
 Scot Anderson

January



Open

JANUARY Birthdays

JANUARY 1

Robert Baird
 LaVerne Decker
 Shelby Dengerud
 Shelley Buck
 Joel Hoyer
 Lois Rusch
 Alec Sparboe

JANUARY 2

Amanda Magnuson
 Tim Quast

JANUARY 3

Tama Fisher
 Cameron Herzog
 Kristi Husmann
 Dorothy Lundin

JANUARY 4

Bennett DeWolf
 Taylor Fruetel
 Jerrod Quade
 Isaac Rick

JANUARY 5

Everett Hantge
 Ethan Stafford

JANUARY 6

Elois Johnson
 Aric Nelson
 Megan Thoma

JANUARY 7

Maeve Hanson
 Andrew Hoffmann
 Justin Isaacson

JANUARY 8

Carl Anderson
 Henrik Boll
 Kelsey Farmer
 Kimberly Farmer

JANUARY 9

Cheyenne Zeppelin

JANUARY 11

Jonathan Lease
 Becky Lundin
 Brandon Mead
 Taylor Stafford

JANUARY 12

Lennon Herzog
 Greta Hultstrum
 Sara Miller
 Kim Prah

JANUARY 13

Delores Kalkbrenner
 Dennis Nelson

JANUARY 14

Jess Housman

JANUARY 15

Alex Sherwood

JANUARY 16

David Lee

JANUARY 17

Charlie Bredeson
 Polly Hemingway
 Ila Rueckert
 Mason St. Pierre
 Donald Weimer

JANUARY 18

Kendra Christians
 Annika Ellingson
 Anyiah-Mae Haidt

JANUARY 20

Sarah Jones
 Jayne Herzog
 Courtney Teas

JANUARY 21

Jean Wieland
 Shelly Christians
 Sara Nelson

JANUARY 22

Barbara Alsleben
 Janet Andreen
 Loren Boll

JANUARY 23

Anna Cottington
 Christopher Fruetel
 Landry Ludowese

JANUARY 24

Bev Anderson
 Donna Beckstrand
 Justin Elj

JANUARY 25

Cooper Evenson
 Cynthia Graff
 Daniel Nelson
 Renee Trettin
 Dominick Wendler

JANUARY 25

Joseph Berube

JANUARY 26

Judith Jones

JANUARY 27

Jason Block
 Clinton Christians
 Abby Hemingway
 Joanne Rust

JANUARY 28

Harper Hultstrum

JANUARY 29

Hunter Hoff
 Constance Nelson

JANUARY 30

Tracey Nistler
 Curtis White Jr.

JANUARY 30


Dan Christopherson
 Gina Gabrielson
 Jennifer Lamecker
 Mitchell Lease

JANUARY 31

Amy Pierce
 David Berry
 Robert Frank
 Claire Gabrielson
 Wendy Norine
 Larry Sutter



Senior Dining Menu

Monday, Jan. 1	Tuesday, Jan. 2	Wednesday, Jan. 3	Thursday, Jan. 4	Friday, Jan. 5
Closed	Herbed Pork Loin	Meatloaf	Ginger Pot Roast	Tuna Noodle and Pea Casserole
	Potato Wedges Peas	Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Corn	Rice Pilaf Carrots	Broccoli
	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread with Margarine	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Dinner Roll w/Margarine
	Frosted Banana Cake Low Fat Milk	Rice Krispie Bar Low Fat Milk	Chilled Peaches Low Fat Milk	Chocolate Peanut Butter Bar Low Fat Milk
Monday, Jan. 8	Tuesday, Jan. 9	Wednesday, Jan. 10	Thursday, Jan. 11	Friday, Jan. 12
Salisbury Steak Peppers and Gravy	Baked Chicken	Amy's Beef Hotdish	Smothered Pork Loin	Pot Roast w/Gravy
Mashed Potatoes	Diced Potatoes	Carrots	Sweet Potato Wedges	Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans	Mixed Vegetables	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Green Beans	Carrots
Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Wheat Bread w/Margarine	Spiced Apples	Bread with Margarine	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine
Pears	Fruit Crisp	Low Fat Milk	Baked Apple w/Raisin Coconut Filling	Chocolate Pudding Cake
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk		Low-fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
				Meal included for 1/15
Monday, Jan. 15	Tuesday, Jan. 16	Wednesday, Jan. 17	Thursday, Jan. 18	Friday, Jan. 19
Closed	Pizza Pasta Casserole	Chicken and Wild Rice Soup	Roast Turkey with Gravy	Salmon Loaf
Martin Luther King Day!	Green Beans	Mixed Vegetables	Mashed Potatoes	Rice Pilaf
	Texas Toast with Margarine	Bread with Margarine	Peas and Carrots	Peas
	Peaches	Cinnamon Baked Apples	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine
Meal included 1/12	Low Fat milk	Confetti Cake Low Fat Milk	Fruit Crisp Low Fat Milk	Peanut Butter Bar Low Fat Milk
Monday, Jan. 22	Tuesday, Jan. 23	Wednesday, Jan. 24	Thursday, Jan. 25	Friday, Jan. 26
Chef's Choice	Chicken A La King	Chicken and Noodles	Pork Loin	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Vegetable of the Day	Biscuit	Peas and Carrots	Baked Yams	California Vegetable Blend
Fruit of Choice	Mixed Vegetables	Bread with Margarine	Broccoli	Texas Toast with Margarine
Bread w/Margarine	Six Layer Bar	Peach Crisp	Bread with Margarine	Fresh Fruit
Dessert of the Day	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Hawaiian Delight Cake Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Low Fat Milk				
Monday, Jan. 29	Tuesday, Jan. 30	Wednesday, Jan. 31		
Pepper Steak w/LS Brown Gravy	Chicken a la Orange	Rosemary Pork Loin	January 2024	
Mashed Potatoes w/LS Brown Gravy	Broccoli	Diced Potatoes	LSS Meals Traditional Older Adult	
Peas and Carrots	Rice Pilaf	Peas	Call 693-6203 at least 24 hours before you want a meal. Menu subject to change.	
Wheat Bread w/Margarine	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine	Approved by: Amy Vaigrt, MS, RD, LD SNAP or EBT payment is accepted.	
Cinnamon Baked Apples	Pineapple Tidbits	Chocolate Chip Bar	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. 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. If you are interested in learning about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), please call 800.488.4146.	
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk		

Memorials & Gifts, Thanks

Gifts were donated to the General Fund in memory of Willard Piepenburg, a long time friend of Faye Kjolsing. These gifts were given by the Madden family (Helen, Mark, Kim, Debra, Buck and Miles), Winton and Kris Nelson, Elaine Besonen, Donna Gilsrud, Sara Miller, Brad and Bev Bipes, and Jeannie Doran.

A gift was given to the Blessing Box in memory of Robert Schulte, friend of Allie Harding, by Mike and Kris Nelson.

Gifts were given to the Quilters and Music Funds in memory of my sister LaVonne Canfield from LaVerne Decker.

A gift was given to the Quilters in memory of LaVonne Canfield, LaVerne Decker's sister, by Dan and Brenda Johnson.

A gift was given to the Carpet fund in memory of my Dad, Reuben Hoyer, he would have been 86 on December 19, from Lisa Hoyer.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Bob Schulte, special friend of Allie Harding, by Jim and Barb Alsleben, Jerry and Lana Johnson, Joan Sommerfeld, and friends of Bob.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of Ray Groskreutz by Jim and Elaine Lenhard.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Ray Groskreutz by Kirk and Dorothy Lundin, Bob and Norma Hall, Marlys Elam, Charlie and Jo Ann Lindstrom, Jerry and Lana Johnson, Dianne Thorp, Gary Smith, Ralph and Gloria Elj, Paul and Sue Lemmer, David and Darlene Meidal, Darlene Lundin, and Karla Kadelbach.

A gift was given to the General in memory of Robert Schulte, friend of Allie Harding, by Bob and Norma Hall.

A gift was given to the General Fund in memory of LaVonne Canfield, LaVerne Decker's sister, by Bob and Norma Hall.

Special Thanks

Thank you all for the prayers, hugs, cards, phone calls, and being there for me with the passing of my sister and best friend LaVonne Canfield. God Bless you all, Love LaVerne Decker

A Big THANK YOU to the Litchfield Woman's Study Club for donating \$300 for purchasing items for the Blessing Table. Betty Allen & Sue Lemmer will be buying items at various time.

Thank you to the many people that helped out and served during December. It was a very busy month and we appreciate the kind and generous work you all did! Many Hands Make Light Work! :) Co-Chairs: Jo & John Carlson and Laurie and Alan Boll

Resolve to go Micro....

Most New Year's resolutions are so major they seem made to be broken. Maybe that's why "micro-resolution" is the latest January buzzword. Setting smaller goals is more realistic and helps ensure follow-through, according to experts. People who try setting micro-resolutions say that approach is more positive and leads to longer-lasting change. For example, instead of attempting to lose 30 pounds this year, make a micro-resolution to walk 10 minutes twice per day and to snack on fresh fruit at least once a day. Micro-resolutions can also be helpful in matters of faith. If aiming to read the entire Bible in one year feels overwhelming, take five minutes each morning and evening to read a brief devotional or pray. If joining your church's missions committee isn't possible, try to talk to one new person each week about your faith or church. May God bless you as you take small steps that add up to big impact this year!



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 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: American Red Cross



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
- Bethany Home: Janet Lundin, Mae Brehmer
- Litchfield, in own home: Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller
- Lakeside, Dassel: Edna Oldenburg
- VA Health Care, St. Cloud: Gordon Johnson



Widow's Grief Support Gathering

First Lutheran Church:
Sundays
Jan. 7 and Jan. 21, 2024
at 1:00 p.m.
Chilstrom Hall

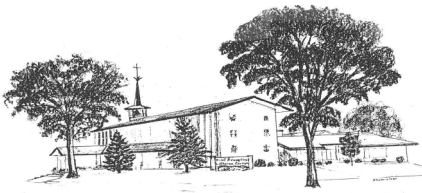
PRAYER SHAWLS

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! If you would like to crochet or knit a prayer shawl, the recommendations are 18-24" wide, 5-6' length.



No WELCA Meeting January 2024

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For the **NEXT ISSUE: February 2024**



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