

FIRST NEWS

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

MARCH 2024

MARCH 2024 Time with Tom

Lent and repent seem to go together. Lent, meager or minimized, having less or giving up. Repent means to turn, or change. Turning around or away from something can be a way to think of repenting. Changing direction or changing your mind can also be repenting. Do we know how to change our direction by changing the way we think about someone or something? Changing our mind about how we live for God in Jesus can be difficult. Is that what Jesus is asking us to do when he tells us to take up our cross and follow him. Change the way we live now and live a more full life, with our focus on Jesus' life. What did Jesus do that we can emulate? Can we be Jesus? No, but we can be like Jesus, if we look at how he reacted to things and to people. Jesus was not a push over but he was not a bully either. Jesus did not let the simple things in life distract him from doing what he came out to do. Jesus said he came out to share the good news with other villages, telling everyone about the grace of God that gives us the gift of life. When people tried to dissuade him from that purpose, he simply changed directions and moved on. Do you remember when he went to Peter's house and healed not only Peter's mother-in-law, but also most of the people of the village? Jesus did not come out to stay in one place healing and casting out demons, he came for another purpose completely. Jesus, in that story gets up early in the morning before anyone else and goes by himself to a wilderness place to pray and wait. Changing his direction turns the focus of the disciples back to the focus of God in Jesus. Do we let little things like someone cutting us off in traffic disrupt our day? Do we get upset and maybe say some words that are not so appealing. Do we let our blood pressure raise to unhealthy levels by such little disruptions. Do we let little things dissuade us from our focus? How can we, turn back or repent in order to live a life more like the example of Jesus? In this time of the church year we call Lent, can we find focus on what is truly important? What is important to Jesus is sharing the good news with everyone. Do not let the little things in life get a reaction out of you, or turn you from the relationship Jesus is building with you. Lent, give up the things that cause you to turn from God. Repent, turn, change your direction and go to all people, loving God and your neighbor. Jesus will show us again this lent how to live for others as he gives life for all, in Jesus Christ. 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.

FIND THE
CHURCH CALENDAR
on page 9

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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 Minutes
Tuesday, February 20th, 2024

**First Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council
2024**

PRESIDENT:

Corey Cervin

VICE PRESIDENT:

Karla Kadelbach

SECRETARY:

TREASURER:

Andy Miller

TEAM

REPRESENTATIVES:

**Christian Education/
Youth & Family:**

Abby Hemmingway

Amy Nelson

Mattie Baumgartner

Stewardship & Finance:

Karla Kadelbach

Andy Miller

Mike Langmo

Social Ministry/Evangelism:

Meredith Elj

Abby Hemingway

Amy Nelson

Endowment/Memorial:

Corey Cervin

Property:

Mattie Baumgartner

Worship:

Meredith Elj

Mike Langmo

Personnel:

Corey Cervin

MST:

Karla Kadelbach

Amy Nelson

Members Present: Mike Langmo, Cindy Hill, Sabrara Evenson, Tanner Eberling, Karla Kadelbach, Meredith Elj, Andy Miller, Amy Nelson

*Devotions: Andy Miller

Welcome to new Council Members –Request made to update contact information for all council members requested.

*Additions to Agenda:

Call Committee presentation of Associate pastoral candidate to council members and consequently turned over to council. Motion was made to Accept pastoral candidate nomination for Associate Pastor. Motion carried.

Motion was made allowing Council President to call a one-time, special, Congregational Meeting on April 14th, 2024 to present said Associate Pastor candidate to the congregation for vote. Motion Carried.

*Secretary’s Report was Approved

*Treasurer’s report was Approved

***Pastor Tom Reported:

*Grief support meetings will continue with a change to the meeting day to first and third Thursdays of the month at 12:30.

*Pastor Mark Little is willing to stay on with us as visitation pastor one month past the hire date of an associate pastor to give time for adjustment of schedules.

*Co-op going well with leadership. Each church has an individual assigned as a lay member for communication efforts. Chelsea Snodgrass has been appointed to said role at FELC, Litchfield, MN.

*Zion Lutheran is putting together a “Beer & Hymns” event which will be at Half Bushel Brewing Company and is set to begin the end of April. This will not be a worship time, but instead will be a relationship building time.

***Team Report’s

*Property Report – Report provided, no representative present to discuss

*Worship -Report provided. Live feed has not been working consistently. Adjustments have been made and believe that the issue is fixed. Additional equipment is to be ordered including mic stands, etc.

*On April 14th the SW MN Synod Band will playing at the beginning of worship service at FELC; Litchfield. This is the band that Ethan Lease was selected to play in.

*Social Ministry – Spring Communion Luncheon will be on May 15th. A request for space to house “reserve” blessing box items was made by Meredith Elj. The current space is not functional and/or adequate.

*Christian Education – No report provided. Meeting topic was soup and sandwich supper which will be 02-21-2024.

*Personnel Team – No report provided.

*Endowment – No report provided.

*Stewardship & Finance – No report provided.

*MST Guidance Team – No report provided

***New Business:

*Request to use facilities for 4H presentation day on July 11th. Motion Carried.

*Crow River Conference Assembly will be 2-25-24 at Zion Lutheran; Litchfield at 2pm. We have 4 members that have volunteered to attend.

Continued on next page

General Fund :

Total Income for the month of Jan. 2024: \$24,655
Expenses for the month of Jan. 2024: \$37,968

Year to Date:

Income as of January 2024: \$24,655
Expenses as of January 2024: \$37,968

*Motion was made to allow Pastor Tom to put his name in as the Churchwide Assembly Voting Member. Motion Carried.

*Council to serve Lenten Soup Supper on 02-28-2024. All council members should bring 2 dozen sandwiches and 1 pan of bars. Set up will begin at 3:00pm on said day, all those who are unable to help with set up are asked to help with clean up.

*Council Retreat will be March 10th at 3:00pm (to 7:00pm) at Pastor Tom and Kim's house.

*No other new business.

*Prayer Requests were taken

*Closing prayer and Motion to adjourn. Motion carries.

*Submitted as un-approved minutes by Amy Nelson

***Dates to Remember:

Team Meetings – March 5, 2024 @ 7:00pm

Executive Team Meeting – March 5, 2024 @6:30pm

Council Meeting – March 10, 2024 @ 7:00pm

Crow River Conference Assembly – February 25, 2024 @ 2:00pm

Council serve soup supper – February 28, 2024 @ 6:00pm

Council Retreat – March 10, 2024 @ 3:00pm Pastor Tom's house

Lenten Soup Suppers – Wednesdays through Lent @ 6:00pm

Lenten Mid-week services – Wednesdays through Lent @ 7:00pm

Minutes submitted by Amy Nelson

Notice:

First Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold a one-time, special, **Congregational Meeting on April 14th, 2024** (following worship at 9 a.m.) to present an Associate Pastor candidate to the congregation for a vote.



Easter Memorials 2024



Given by: _____

In memory and/or in honor of: _____

General Fund \$ _____

Blessing Box \$ _____

Property Fund/Carpet & Flooring \$ _____

Property Fund/Lawn Irrigation System \$ _____

Please return your memorial and this form to the church office no later than: Monday, March 18, 2024. Thank you!

Churchwide

Lent – Easter Schedule

This year's Lenten theme will reflect on the *"Temptations of Jesus in the Wilderness"* from Matthew 4:1-11. All evening mid-week services will begin at **7:00 p.m.** at First Lutheran Church, Litchfield. We will have the opportunity to hear from members of our FLC congregation during this Lenten season. We will be using *"Unfailing Light"* for all services.

Soup Supper will be served at **6:00 p.m.** in Chilstrom Hall starting: Feb. 21, 2024.

- Feb. 21 Lent Service - Homily by Minister Julie Bredeson, Music Leaders: Nate Elj and Katie Hultstrum
- Feb. 28 Lent Service - Homily by Minister Jerry Johnson, Music Leader: Nicole Geffre
- March 6 Lent Service - Homily by Minister Heidi Thoma, Music Leader: Ali LaVine
- March 13 Lent Service - Homily by Minister Jackie Kraushaar, Music Leader: Raigan Miller
- March 20 Lent Service - Homily by Minister Amy Nelson, Music Leaders: Heidi and Abby Thoma
- March 24 Palm / Passion Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- March 28 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.
- March 29 Good Friday 7:00 p.m.
- March 31 Easter Worship Services 6:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.



*"I want to know Christ
and the power of his
resurrection."*

Philippians 3:10, NRSV

Churchwide

Meeker Area Food Shelf's Annual March Campaign



Condiments

Jelly
Ketchup
Mustard
Jar Salsa
Mayo
Syrup
Salad Dressing
BBQ Sauce

Pack the Pews

Pack the Pews is a great way to come together as a faith organization during the Meeker Area Food Shelf's Annual March Campaign and collect food for those facing food insecurity. This year, we have created a Needs List of our most needed items for your convenience. This also helps to meet the needs of those needing our services.

Always Needed Items:

Soups, crackers, oatmeal, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned meat, granola bars, cereals, cooking oil, sugar, spaghetti sauce, rice, noodles, spices, condiments.

**Healthy options are highly recommended.*

Meeker Area Food Shelf 118 North Sibley Ave. Litchfield, MN 55355 (320) 693-7661 Hours: M: 11am-6pm W, Th, F: 10am-3pm	Dassel Area Food Shelf 531 Atlantic Ave. W. Dassel, MN 55325 (320) 275-0124 Hours: T: 10am-3pm Th: 3-6pm
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Website: www.meekercountyfood.org
Email: needfood@hutchtel.net

Our Mission:

The Meeker County Emergency Food Shelf is a non-profit venture of community partners working to provide access to healthy food for those facing food insecurity.

The Meeker Area Food Shelf and Dassel Area Food Shelf serve all of Meeker County. We provide 400-550 individuals with a 3-5 day supply of food each month.

Donate online easily at:

www.givemn.org

Search: *Meeker Area Food Shelf*

**Monetary donations allow us to purchase food at a discounted rate through our food bank.*

Thank you for your support!



Attention Ushers

Thank you for serving as Ushers this past year. It was greatly appreciated.

Here is a change in ushering that you need to know.

If it is your month to usher please be at church twenty five minutes before the start of the service. This is so the captain and head ushers can determine if additional ushers are needed. We do not want to ask someone, when they say yes, then turn around and tell them they are not needed.

The 1st Sunday of every month, six usher are needed for the communion part of the service. The other Sundays of the month only two ushers are needed. Ushers, can work this out between themselves, which Sunday they can be at church. Then let the head usher know which Sunday you will be there.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks

Head Ushers

Churchwide

LENTEN “GIVING CROSS” PROJECT

The 2024 Lenten “Giving Cross” Project will begin on Ash Wednesday 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 in the basket placed by the cross. If monetary donations are made, please make the checks payable to “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

March 2024 Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 3, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion, & Baptism Micah Schilla
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. First Communion Class

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

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

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

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

Sunday, March 17, 2024

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

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

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

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

No worship service

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

- 7:00 p.m. Worship w/Communion

Good Friday, March 28, 2024

- 7:00 p.m. Youth Led Worship

Easter Sunday, March 24, 2024

- 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship Service w/Comm.
- 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
- 10:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion

Special Dates:

- World Day of Prayer, *March 1, 2024*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 10, 2024*
- First day of spring, *March 19, 2024*
- Holy Week, *March 24-31, 2024*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *March 24, 2024*
- Maundy Thursday, *March 28, 2024*
- Good Friday, *March 29, 2024*
- Easter Sunday, *March 31, 2024*

Widow's Grief Support Gathering,
will now meet on the:

**1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month
at 12:30 p.m.
in the church conference room**

These meetings are 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 meeting.

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

MOVIE NIGHT
Saturday, March 16, 2024
 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

Lent – Easter Schedule: This year’s Lenten theme will reflect on the “*Temptations of Jesus in the Wilderness*” from Matthew 4:1-11. All evening mid-week services will begin at **7:00 p.m.** at First Lutheran Church, Litchfield. We will have the opportunity to hear from members of our FLC congregation during this Lenten season. We will be using “*Unfailing Light*” for all services.

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

Feb. 21 *Lent Service - Homily by Minister Julie Bredeson, Music Leaders: Nate Elj and Katie Hulterstrum*

Feb. 28 *Lent Service - Homily by Minister Jerry Johnson, Music Leader: Nicole Geffre and Nate Elj*

March 6 *Lent Service - Homily by Minister Heidi Thoma, Music Leader: Ali LaVine*

March 13 *Lent Service - Homily by Minister Jackie Kraushaar, Music Leader: Sara and Raigan Miller*

March 20 *Lent Service - Homily by Minister Amy Nelson, Music Leaders: Heidi and Abby Thoma*

March 24 *Palm / Passion Sunday 9:00 a.m.*

March 28 *Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.*

March 29 *Good Friday 7:00 p.m.*

March 31 *Easter Worship Services 6:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.*



EASTER

How many different words can you make using these letters?

Make your own design on these eggs. Then color them!

DID YOU KNOW?

Eggs are a sign of new life, just like our new life in Christ!

JESUS IS LORD!

HAPPY EASTER!

You can have new life too! Use the alphabet code and your Bible to solve the puzzle and find out how.

“IF YOU ^C _____ WITH YOUR

3 15 14 6 5 19 19

MOUTH THAT _____ IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN

10 5 19 21 19

YOUR _____ THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE

8 5 1 18 20

DEAD, YOU WILL BE _____.”

19 1 22 5 4

ROMANS 10:9, ESV

Can you find 9 other symbols of new life on this page? Circle each one, then color them!

Use the grid to draw the other side!

HE IS RISEN!

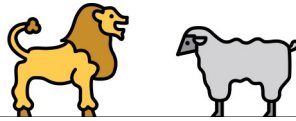
Matthew 28:6

March 2024 Calendar

March 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Comm. & Baptism, Micah Schilla 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. First Comm. Class 6:00 p.m. 4-H Meeting	4 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Meeting, SS Assembly Room	5 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	6 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship	7 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 12:30 p.m. Grief Support 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	8 6:00 p.m. Scouts Pine Derby Setting up in Chilstrom	9 8:00 a.m. Men's Group 10:00 a.m. Scouts Pine Derby
10 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Comm. 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 3:00 p.m. Council Retreat, @ Pastor Tom's Home	11 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Meeting, SS Assembly Room	12 7:00 a.m. Brew 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel	13 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship 8:00 p.m. Pricilla Circle, Hosted by Marlene Herzog at FLC following service	14 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel 6:30 p.m. Scout Leader Mtg.	15	16 5:00 p.m. Movie Night, Holy Word Theater
17 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Comm. 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. First Comm. Class 2:00 p.m. Scouts Honor Court Chilstrom Hall	18 9:30 a.m. Rachel Circle 6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Meeting, SS Assembly Room	19 7:00 a.m. Brew 9:00 a.m. Martha Circle 11:00 a.m. M.A.M Mtg. @FLC 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel 7:00 p.m. Church Council Mtg	20 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship	21 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 12:30 p.m. Grief Support 1:30 p.m. WELCA Meeting 6:00 p.m. Scout Den Meeting 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel	22	23 8:00 a.m. Men's Group
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Comm. 10:00 a.m. Fellowship/ Coffee 10:00 a.m. Sunday School	25	26 7:00 a.m. Brew 8:30 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. N/A, Chapel	27 4:30 p.m. Staff Mtg. No Worship Service	28 Manudy Thursday 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Smart Recovery, Chapel 7:00 p.m. Worship w/Comm.	29 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Youth Led Worship	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship w/Comm. 7 - 11 a.m. MST French Toast Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Worship w/Comm. 10:30 a.m. Worship w/Comm. No Sunday School	<p style="text-align: center;"> First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 South Sibley Ave Litchfield, MN 55355 320-693-2487 </p>					

Serving Group & Birthdays

MARCH 2024 SERVING	
Chairs:	
Jerry & Lana Johnson	
Mark & Judy Hultstrum	Pamela Heffern
Sandra Gruenke	Marge Hellzen
Christina Guza	Abby Hemingway
Christina Haas	Mike & Polly Hemingway
Bob & Norma Hall	Duane & Darlene Henkelman
Bill & Mary Kay Hannan	Marlene Herzog
Dennis & LeeAnn Hanson	Millard "Buck" & Jane Hickman
Everett & Katherine Hantge	Warren & Sandra Hickman
Alice Harding	Cindy Hill
Richard & Carol Heath	Scott and Theresa Hoff
Jerry & Sue Hartwig	Heidi Hoekstra & Casey Miller



March Ushers 9:00 a.m.

Dennis Gartner - C
Winton Nelson
Jason Oslund
Chad Zeppelin
Larry Radunz
Gary Pierce
Tim Pierce
John Streed



March

Laurie Pierce

Laurie Koehn



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



MARCH 1

MARCH 2

Joel Haas
Richard Nistler

MARCH 3

Christopher Breault
Noah Elam

Ava Provencher

Alixzander Rodriguez

MARCH 4

Jan Fawcett
Michael Johnson

MARCH 5

Bonnie Bohn
Joni Book

Fay Braseth

Brady Stille

Valda Thomas

MARCH 6

Dusti Berglund
Pastor Tom Evenson

Ashlin Hasson

Dan Johnson

Joel Ramthun

MARCH 7

Erika (Gartner) Schilla
McKenna Mahlow

MARCH 8

Jacob Gabrielson

Jorja Gabrielson

Jerry Johnson

Jim Lenhard

Brielle Moore

MARCH 9

Heidi Johnson

Jeanette Nelson

Oden Nelson

Javin Stucky

MARCH 10

Brenda Anderson

Lexi Cumings

Ezekiel Forster

Howard Koehn

Edna Oldenburg

MARCH 11

Ben Kranz

Sabrina Schreiber

Mathew Steichen

MARCH 12

Hal Huso

Sara Strolberg

MARCH 13

Miranda Michaletz

Tanna Stucky

MARCH 14

Justin Boop

Jason Michels

Olivia Rick

Karlie Snodgrass

MARCH 15

Nathan Nelson

Charlene Tancabel

Colleen Worden

MARCH 16

Judy Berglund

LillieAnna Giang

Jeremy Westphall

Jody Westphall

MARCH 17

MaryKay Hannan

Crystal Wilson

MARCH 18

Teri Aisleben

Megan Birch

Dakota Birch

Troy Hurd

MARCH 19

Lisa Bohn

Brandon DeWolf

Katherine Hantge

Ruth Massingham

Tracy Quale

Jon Silverberg

MARCH 20

Ella Eberling

Chuck Fenton

Taylor Manning

Deb Zeppelin

MARCH 21

Bradley DeWolf

Chris Madsen

Aubrey Ross

MARCH 22

Robert Farmer

Kirk Lundin

Maverick Miller

MARCH 23

Keith Evenson

Shirley Lekander

MARCH 24

Scott Hoff

Macyn Hultstrum

MARCH 25

Beth Boyle

Erin Kleinschmidt

MARCH 26

Lillian Barrick

Nathean Andersen-Otto

Riley Defries

Avery Liestman

Luke Herzog

Beverly Nelson

MARCH 27

Jill Ramthun

James Rorah

MARCH 28

Audree Hanson

Kayla Hultstrum

MARCH 29

Norman Bohn

Deborah Maurer

MARCH 30

Jacqueline Defries

Jesse Kleinschmidt

Daniel Piepenburg

Cindy Strolberg

MARCH 31

Allan Andreen

Dorothy Euerle

Nicholas Gabrielson

Gina Lokken


Sadie Ludowese

Charlotte Noroski

Julia Noroski

Layne Pater

Senior Dining Menu

 Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota		<h2 style="color: red;">March 2024</h2> <p>LSS Meals Traditional Older Adult Menu</p>		
Monday, March 4	Tuesday, March 5	Wednesday, March 6	Thursday, March 7	Friday, March 8
Pepper Steak w/LS Brown Gravy	Chicken A La Orange	Rosemary Pork Loin	Beef Cabbage Bake	Roast Turkey w/Gravy
Mashed Potatoes w/LS Brown Gravy	Broccoli	Diced Potatoes	Egg Noodles	Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Peas and Carrots	Rice Pilaf	Peas	Corn	Green Beans
Wheat Bread w/Margarine	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine	Dinner Roll w/Margarine
Cinnamon Baked Apples	Pineapple Tidbits	Chocolate Chip Bar	Fresh Fruit	Pumpkin Spice Cake
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, March 11	Tuesday, March 12	Wednesday, March 13	Thursday, March 14	Friday, March 15
Chicken, Broccoli and Rice Hotdish	Herbed Pork Loin	Meatloaf	Ginger Pot Roast	Tuna Noodle and Pea Casserole
Carrots	Potato Wedges	Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Rice Pilaf	Broccoli
Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Peas	Corn	Carrots	Dinner Roll w/Margarine
Fresh Fruit	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Chocolate Peanut Butter Bar
Low Fat Milk	Frosted Banana Cake	Rice Krispie Bar	Chilled Peaches	Low Fat Milk
	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	
Monday, March 18	Tuesday, March 19	Wednesday, March 20	Thursday, March 21	Friday, March 22
Salisbury Steak Peppers and Gravy	Baked Chicken	Beef Sauerkraut 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	Baked w/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	Low Fat Milk
Monday, March 25	Tuesday, March 26	Wednesday, March 27	Thursday, March 28	Friday, March 29
Honey Glazed Chicken	Pizza Pasta Casserole	Chicken and Wild Rice Soup	Roast Turkey w/Gravy	Salmon Loaf
Rice	Green Beans	Mixed Vegetables	Mashed Potatoes	Rice Pilaf
Country Blend Vegetables w/Margarine	Texas Toast w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine	Peas and Carrots	Peas
Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Peaches	Cinnamon Baked Apples	Wheat Dinner Roll w/Margarine	Bread w/Margarine
Fresh Fruit	Low Fat Milk	Confetti Cake	Fruit Crisp	Peanut Butter Bar
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 w/ 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.

In Litchfield, please call 320-693-6203 by noon the day before you want a meal.

Menu is subject to change.

Approved by:
Amy Vaigt MS, RD, LD
SNAP or EBT payment is accepted.

Memorials & Gifts, Thanks

Gifts were given to the General fund and Meeker Area Ministries in memory of Harvey Graff from Bryan and Linda Larson, Mark and Julie Bredeson, Jeanette Erickson, and Corey and Kris Cervin.

Gifts were given to the General fund, MST-International, Meeker Area Ministries in memory of David Langmo, Mike and Deb Langmo's son, from Bryan and Linda Larson, Pastor Tom and Kim Evenson, Mark and Julie Bredeson, Dianne Thorp, Michael and Gaylene Thomas, Scot and Joan Anderson, Duane and Darlene Henkelman, Carol Dragt, John and Katie Hulterstrum, and Mark and Judy Hulterstrum.

A gift was given to the Meeker Area Ministries in memory of Marion Christofferson, Mother-in-law of Lori Christofferson, from Dianne Thorp.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of Ray Groskreutz from Bryan and Linda Larson.

Special Thanks

A heartfelt Thank you to everyone that expressed sympathy to us during this difficult journey of losing our beloved son David. Thank you for the cards, gifts and prayers. Mike and Deb Langmo

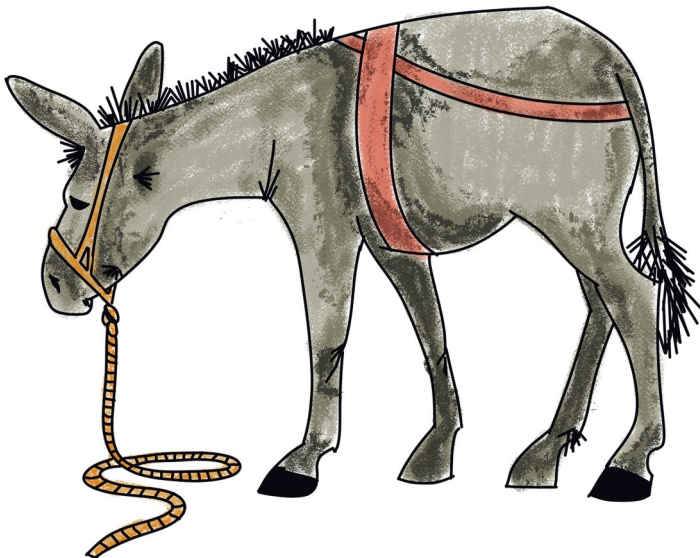


**Update!
About
the Directory**

Photo Directory

If you have not had a chance to review your photos—please let the church office know, we have access to all of the photo files and you can review and make your selection. If you were unable to get your photo taken here for the new church directory, contact the church office 320-693-2487 to set up an appointment time to take a photo at church or info for how to submit a photo.
Thank you

Be the donkey



Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

"When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?" she replied. "If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor."

Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or "take up") their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?

WELCA MINUTES FEBRUARY 15, 2024

WELCA met on February 15, 2024, in Chilstrom Hall with Betty Allen calling the meeting to order. The Purpose Statement was recited. Devotions were given by Betty.

The Treasurer's report was printed and Lana Johnson made a motion to approve the report as printed with a second by Dianne Thorp. Motion carried.

There was no Secretary's report as we did not meet last month. The December minutes were printed in the newsletter.

Old Business: Birthday party at Ecumen is Tuesday, February 20th at 1:30. Cupcakes have been ordered, Carol Dragt will provide the music.

New Business: WELCA will serve soup supper on March 6th. Betty will order the soup. A sheet was passed around to sign up to work, to make bars, or make sandwiches. It will also be passed around on Sunday.

The WELCA Crow River Spring Gathering will be on Saturday, April 20th. Please register in the office and pay \$10 by April 10th.

A discussion on Lucia was held. For the program today, we planned on going through all the Lucia decorations and cataloging the items we have. Any old and not needed items would be thrown out or put on the MST garage sale. There were too many containers to bring down so they could be sorted and the stairs are too difficult for the women to go up and down. What is needed is storage on the main floor, but there is no room. Pastor suggested that a Lucia decorating committee be formed and they could sort through the boxes. So far, no one has volunteered to be on the committee. **Please call the church office if you would like to be on the Lucia decorating committee.**

Dates to Remember: March 21st – WELCA at 1:30
April 20th – Spring Gathering – Peace of Cosmos

Thanks to Marlys Elam and Marilyn Swanson for serving today.
Next Month Lana Johnson and Betty Allen will serve.

The Lord's Prayer and Table Prayer was recited.

Respectively submitted,
Sue Lemmer, Secretary





Crow River Conference Women of the ELCA

Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Peace Lutheran Church

140 Saturn St. N. Cosmos, MN

Registration begins at 8:00AM Brunch at 8:30AM

Terebinth Refuge:

A Shelter For Hope and Healing

In kind offering: LWR Personal Care Kits

You may bring any kits, quilts and shipping cost contributions.

Reservation: \$10 per person

Please sign up in the church office.



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: Giving Cross - Lutheran World Relief



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, Wendy Norine

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:

Thursdays

Mar. 7 & Mar. 21, 2024

at 12:30 p.m.

Conference Room

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.



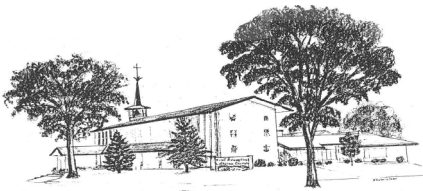
WELCA Meeting

March 21, 2024

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 **March 15th**
For the **NEXT ISSUE: April 2024**



FIRST NEWS

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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firstmedia@hutchtel.net

Scott Nelson, Custodian

Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

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Or Follow us on Youtube!



Easter Sunday Worship Services March 31, 2024

6:30 a.m.

Sunrise Worship Service w/communion

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

MST-2024 French Toast Breakfast

9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship w/communion

10:30 a.m.

Non-Traditional Worship w/communion