

FIRST NEWS

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

JANUARY 2025

January 2025

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him, not one thing came into being... And the Word became flesh and lived among us. John 1:1-3, 14a

Merry Christmas! I do hope this has been a restful and restorative season for you and yours.

At first glance the Gospel of John appears to have no concern with Christmas. And if you're expecting Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Shepherds, Angels, and stars, your assessment would be correct. However, the author of John is very concerned with declaring the message at the heart of the Christmas season.

The Word, which was with God, since the beginning of all that is; the vehicle through which God brought all of creation into being, became flesh and lived among us. This is the core message of Christmas, and this is the main theme of John's entire gospel.

Possibly you have heard of "The Message", it's a translation of the Bible which attempts to translate and paraphrase our sacred scriptures with modern words and phrases. Overall, I think the author Eugene Peterson did a rather good job, especially when considering he did it all on his own. I bring this up to simply quote how Mr. Peterson translates John 1:14a. Peterson writes,

"And the Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood." John 1:14a MSG

There is so much crammed into these simple, yet very profound, words! Here the author of John is making a significant claim about the nature of God. Through Jesus, John is declaring that God took on a physical form, but not like the god-men of Greeks and Romans in their mythologies or in our modern comics, rather Jesus was a person just like you and me; limited and finite.

What a tremendous claim about God's Love!

God loved us so much that God willingly limited God's Self so to not only take up residence among us (move into the neighborhood) but to also to experience our human limitations and live within these limits.

Yes, on the surface John's gospel appears to completely skip Christmas. However, John's gospel does celebrate Christmas, just in a much different kind of way.

As you celebrate the 12 days of Christmas, may the mystery of this time capture your imagination and ignite a renewed sense of calling in your life as you ponder what it means for God's Word to move into your neighborhood, dwelling among you, and become your neighbor.

Merry Christmas to you all, and Happy New Year!

Pr. Michael

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 7

What's Inside:

- Pastor's Article, Pg. 1
- Church Council, Pg. 2
- Finance, Pg. 3
- Worship Schedule, Pg. 5
- WELCA, Pgs. 6
- Church Calendar, Pg. 7
- Serving Groups, B-Days, Pg. 8
- Senior Dining Menu, Pg. 9
- Memorials, Thanks, Pg. 10
- Church-wide, Pg. 3-5, 11-12

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.”**

Church Council Meeting
Tuesday December 17, 2024 7:00 pm

Our MISSION:

FLC exists to Welcome people of 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

2025: Meridith Elj, Andy Miller, Mike Langmo, Cory Cervin

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

2027: Betty Allen, Tanner Eberling, Sabrara Evenson, Karla Hyberger

Meeting called to order 7 pm.

Devotions: Tanner E.

Secretary Report: read and approved

Treasurer Report: read and approved

Pastor Reports:

Pastor Michael reports a new TBI support group to begin at FLC in the near future, gave numbers raised on activities please see attached report.

Pastor Tom: FLC will be looking into a new organ program in the future please give feedback to us as we try this new program. Also see attached report.

Team Reports:

E-evangelism/ social ministry. No meeting

Christian Ed/ Youth Team. No meeting

Church Property. Insurance policy reviewed and new portable handicap signs ordered.

Personnel. No meeting

Endowment. No meeting

Stewardship/ Finance. No meeting

Worship Meeting Discussion on Lent Holden Evening service selected

Old Business

Budget will be emailed to all council members to vote on.

Nominating committee still seeking names for the January ballot.

Tanner now approved to sign checks.

New Business

Personnel update starting review and update of all job descriptions

Annual Meeting January 26th Annual reports to Judy by 1st week of January

Dates to remember:

Christmas Eve services Tuesday Dec 24 @4:00, 6:00 and 10:00 pm (wear your PJ’s)

Sunday December 29 @ 9 am Healing worship

Church Office closed News Years Day January 1, 2025

Team Meetings January 7, 2025 @ 6:30 and 7 pm

Council Meeting January 21, 2025 @ 7 pm

Annual reports available January 19, 2025

Annual Meeting January 26, 2025 @ 10 am following worship

Adjourn

Submitted by Mattie Baumgartner

**First Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council 2024**

PRESIDENT:

Tanner Eberling

VICE PRESIDENT:

Corey Cervin

SECRETARY:

Mattie Baumgartner

TREASURER:

Andy Miller

Team Representatives:

**Christian Education/
Youth & Family:**

Abby Hemmingway

Amy Nelson

Sabrara Evenson

Karla Hyberger

Stewardship & Finance:

Karla Kadelbach

Andy Miller

Mike Langmo

**Social Ministry/
Evangelism:**

Meredith Elj

Abby Hemingway

Amy Nelson

Sabrara Evenson

Betty Allen

Karla Kadelbach

Karla Hyberger

Endowment/Memorial:

Corey Cervin

Tanner Eberling

Property:

Mattie Baumgartner

Tanner Eberling

Betty Allen

Worship:

Meredith Elj

Mike Langmo

Amy Nelson

Personnel:

Tanner Eberling

Corey Cervin

MST:

Karla Kadelbach

Sabrara Evenson

Stewardship & Finance

General Fund:

Total Income for the month of Nov. 2024: \$52,402
Expenses for the month of Nov. 2024: \$38,065

Year to Date:

Income as of November 2024: \$421,907
Expenses as of November 2024: \$432,559

A prayer for spiritual growth

When my spiritual vision is foggy, help me to find my way.
When my understanding is incomplete, open my mind
and increase my patience.
When my indifference blocks my senses, touch my heart.
When worry or fear raise their voices, speak to my faith.
Let your Spirit permeate my longings as well as my living
and my loving. Amen.

—Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*

Confirmation Photos are
here! Please pick them up
in the church office.
Thank you!

First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Litchfield and staff members will have new email addresses.

This transition will take place slowly. All current email is good and you will get notifications when it's time to switch to the new addresses.

New email (starting February 1st) are as follows:

Pastor Tom Evenson, Senior Pastor	firstsr@firstlitchfield.org
Pastor Michael Buller, Associate Pastor	firstap@firstlitchfield.org
Heidi Thoma, Christian Ed. Coordinator	first.chris.ed@firstlitchfield.org
Judy Berglund, Office Manager	firstoffice@firstlitchfield.org
Carol Heath, Financial Secretary & Sara Rick, Bookkeeper	firsttr@firstlitchfield.org
Carol Dragt, Director of Music, Non-Traditional	firstmusic@firstlitchfield.org
Kipp Kleinschmidt, Media Director	firstmedia@firstlitchfield.org



FUNERALS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Einar O. Lundin
November 30, 2024

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

L.A.M.A. Caroling at Bethany Chapel from December 2024



Churchwide

FLC
Youth
Christmas
Program
December
8th
2024



December 15th, 2024
Christmas Musical Worship Service



JANUARY

January 2025 Worship Schedule

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 New Years Day
No evening activities at FLC

Sunday, January 5, 2025

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

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/Comm., Chapel

Sunday, January 12, 2025

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

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/Comm., Chapel

Sunday, January 19, 2025

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

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/Comm., Chapel

Sunday, January 26, 2025 Annual Meeting

8 am - 12 pm MST-French Toast Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion
10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting
No Sunday School

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Worship w/Comm., Chapel

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



Special Dates...

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2025*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2025*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 12, 2025*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 20, 2025*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25, 2025*



Sunday, January 5th, 2025
@1:00 p.m. Please meet in Chilstrom
All are welcome.



MOVIE NIGHT
Saturday, January 18, 2025
 5:00 p.m.
 Holy Word Theater, FLC
 Movie: TBD....
 Please join us for a good movie and popcorn.
 Please bring your own beverage.

WELCA

The December 19, 2024 WELCA meeting was canceled due to weather. There will **not** be a January 2025 WELCA meeting. Next meeting: February 20, 2025 @ 1:30 PM.

A beautiful candlelit walk into the church from December 14th, 2024 - Lucia Breakfast.



Serving tables for Lucia Breakfast



Lucia Queen, Kalle Cervin



Lucia Queen, Emma Hoff



Our Traditional Lucia Breakfast



January 2025 Calendar


January 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 South Sibley Ave Litchfield, MN 55355 320-693-2487</p>			<p>1 New Years Day Church office closed</p>	<p>2 7:55 a.m. "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm Widow's Grief Support, Conf. Room 6:00 pm Den Mtg., Chilstrom</p>	3	4
<p>5 9:00 am Worship w /Comm. 10:00 am Fellowship & Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School – Family Day 1:00 pm UN- Decorate Church 6:00 pm 4-H Meeting</p>	<p>6 6:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7 7:00 am BREW 8:30 am Quilters 2 pm Worship @ Meeker Manor 5:30 pm Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 pm NA – Chapel 6:30 pm Exec. Team Mtg. 7:00 pm Spec. C.C. Mtg. 7:00 pm Team Meetings</p>	<p>8 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chapel 7:00 pm Youth Study Group 7:00 pm Priscilla Circle, Joan Sommerfeld's home</p>	<p>9 7:55 am "Open Gate"/KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Ecumen Worship, Bethany Chapel 6:00 pm Pack Mtg, Assem.Rm 7:00 pm Scout Leaders, Conf. Room</p>	10	<p>11 8:00 a.m. Men's Group</p>
<p>12 9:00 am Worship w /Comm. 10:00 am Fellowship & Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>14 7:00 am BREW 11:00 am LAMA Mtg. 6:30 pm NA – Chapel</p>	<p>15 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chap 7:00 pm Youth Study Group 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 7:55 am "Open Gate"/KLFD 12:30 pm Widow's Grief Support, Conference Room <i>No WELCA Meeting</i> 6:00 pm Den Mtg., Chilstrom</p>	17	<p>18 5:00 pm Movie Night, Holy Word Theater</p>
<p>19 9:00 am Worship w /Comm 10:00 am Fellowship & Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>20 9:30 am Rachel Circle 6:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>21 7:00 am BREW 9:00 am Martha Circle 11:00 am M.A.M. Meeting 6:30 pm NA – Chapel 7:00 pm Church Council</p>	<p>22 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chap 7:00 pm Youth Study Group 7:15 pm MST 2026 Meeting</p>	<p>23 7:55 am "Open Gate"/KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Pack Mtg, Chilstrom Hall</p>	24	<p>25 8:00 a.m. Men's Group</p>
<p>26 8 am – 12 pm MST - 2026 French Toast Breakfast 9:00 am Worship w /Comm. 10:00 am Annual Meeting <i>No Sunday School</i></p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>28 7:00 am BREW 8:30 am Quilters 6:30 pm NA – Chapel</p>	<p>29 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chap 7:00 pm Youth Study Group 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 7:55 am "Open Gate"/KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Den. Mtg, Chilstrom Hall</p>	31	

Serving Group & Birthdays

JANUARY 2025 SERVING GROUP	
Chairs:	Joe & Lisa Gaulrapp
Karla Kadelbach	Nicole Geffre
Ila Rueckert	Jason & Esmerelda Giang
Keith & Juliann Fredrickson	Debra Gilberts
Tom & Beth Fruetel	Robert & Sally Gilberts
Nick & Tracy Gabrielson	Donna Gilsrud
Sandra Gabrielson	Randy & Pam Groskreutz
Todd & Jessicah Gabrielson	Darlene Groskreutz
Paul & Char Garrison	Heather Burdick-Grotto
Dennis & Renee Gartner	Von & Kris Grotto

Joe & Lisa Gaulrapp
Nicole Geffre
Jason & Esmerelda Giang
Debra Gilberts
Robert & Sally Gilberts
Donna Gilsrud
Randy & Pam Groskreutz
Darlene Groskreutz
Heather Burdick-Grotto
Von & Kris Grotto

January Ushers
9:00 a.m.
 Daniel Lease
 Scot Anderson
 Eric Hulterstrum



Altar Guild

January
Open



JANUARY Birthdays


JANUARY 1
 Robert Baird
 LaVerne Decker
 Shelby Dengerud
 Shelley Buck
 Lois Rusch
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
 Benjamin Buller
 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 Hulterstrum
 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 Magedanz
 Jean Wieland
JANUARY 21
 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
 Cooper Evenson
 Cynthia Graff
 Daniel Nelson
 Renee Trettin
 Dominick Wendler
JANUARY 25
 Joseph Berube
 Ruth Kerstein

JANUARY 26
 Judith Jones
JANUARY 27
 Jason Block
 Clinton Christians
 Abby Hemingway
 Joanne Rust
JANUARY 28
 Harper Hulterstrum
JANUARY 29
 Hunter Hoff
 Constance Nelson
 Tracey Nistler
 Curtis White Jr.
JANUARY 30
 Dan Christopherson
 Gina Gabrielson
 Jennifer Lamecker
 Mitchell Lease
 Amy Pierce
JANUARY 31
 Robert Frank
 Claire Gabrielson
 Wendy Norine
 Dale Rosenberg
 Larry Sutter

Senior Dining Menu

January 2025		Wednesday, Jan. 1	Thursday, Jan. 2	Friday, Jan. 3
 LSS Meals Traditional Older Adult Menu		Closed for Holiday		
Monday, Jan. 6		Thursday, Jan. 9		
Baked Pork Chop w/Gravy	Chicken Alfredo	Salsbury Steak w/Gravy	Tater Tot Hotdish	Oven Fried Fish
Parslied New Potatoes	Sliced Carrots	Mashed Potatoes	Whole Kernel Corn	Mashed Sweet Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables	Green Peas	Green Beans	Apricot Crisp	Country Veg Blend
Wheat Bread & Margarine	Dinner Roll	Dinner Roll & Margarine	Wheat Bread	Dinner Roll & Margarine
Oatmeal Raisin Cookie	Margarine	Brownie	Margarine	Snickerdoodle Cookie
1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk
Monday, Jan. 13		Thursday, Jan. 16		
Beef Cabbage Roll Casserole	Beef Stroganoff	Pork Roast	Turkey Tetrazzini	Cheesy Egg Bake
Peas & Pearl Onions	Parslied Noodles	Pork Gravy	Peas & Carrots	Mixed Vegetables
Apple Crisp	Chateau Veg Blend	Candied Yams	Whole Kernel Corn	Potato O'Brien
	Diced Beets	Green Beans		
Wheat Bread	Dinner Roll	Wheat Bread & Margarine	Dinner Roll	Blueberry Muffin
Margarine	Margarine	Peanut Butter Cup Cookie	Margarine	Margarine
1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk
Monday, Jan. 20		Thursday, Jan. 23		
Closed for Holiday		Closed for Holiday		
Monday, Jan. 27		Thursday, Jan. 30		
Smothered Chopped Steak	Chicken Baked Herb	Meatballs w/Spaghetti Sc	Asian Chicken	Beef Shepherd's Pie
Mashed Potatoes	Mashed Sweet Potatoes	Spaghetti Noodles	Steamed Rice	Roasted Butternut Squash
Whole Kernel Corn	Broccoli Florets	Italian Veg Blend	Peas & Carrots	Cherry Crisp
Wheat Bread & Margarine	Dinner Roll	Herb Butter Roll	Wheat Dinner Roll	Wheat Bread
Oatmeal Cranberry Cookie	Margarine	Margarine	Margarine	Margarine
1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% Milk	1% 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>				
Menu is subject to change.				
Approved by: Nicole Crouch, MS, RD SNAP or EBT payment is accepted.				

Please call at least 24 hours ahead to order meals, 320-693-3207

Gifts, Memorials & Thanks

A gift was given to the Carpet fund in memory of Reuben Hoyer on his birthday, Dec. 19, from Lisa Hoyer

Gifts were given to the General fund, Blessing Box, Bell Choir, Quilters, Endowment, and New Flooring fund in memory of Einar Lundin from Richard and Carol Heath, Cory and Kris Cervin, Paul and Sue Lemmer, Ron and Barb Piepenburg, Marlys Elam, Mark and Julie Bredeson, Jerry and Lana Johnson, Russell and Shirley Kronbeck, Karla Kadelbach, John and Jo Carlson, Carol Dragt, Bob and Norma Hall, Charlie and Jo Ann Lindstrom, Mike and Kris Nelson, Dianne Thorp, Jean Wieland, Sharon Johnson, Lil Madson, Jean Wieland, Steve and Jackie Kraushaar, Jerry and Betty Urdahl, Faye Kjolsing, Lorraine Bipes, Randy and Kristi Quitney, John and Shirley Lekander, Everett and Kathy Hantge, Duane and Darlene Henkelman, Stanley and Sylvia Kittelson, Gary and Kathy Cervin, Ardis and Daniel Denn, Iona Albright, Mark and Judy Hulterstrum, Valda Thomas, Constance Lutz, Joanne Miller, Bryan and Linda Larson, Dan and Brenda Johnson, Mike and Deb Langmo, Pastor Tom and Kim Evenson, Chuck and Karen Eberhard, and Gary and Janet Smith.

Gifts were given to the Blessing Box in honor of Gary and Janet Smith's wedding from Jean Wieland, and their friends and families.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of Kenny Fuhrman, Laurie Koehn's brother, from Ron and Barb Piepenburg.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Mae Brehmer from John and Jo Carlson, John and Katie Hulterstrum, Dan and Robin Johnson, Mark and Judy Hulterstrum, Marilyn Swanson, Jeanette Erickson, Stanley and Sylvia Kittelson, Iona Albright, Dan and Brenda Johnson, Bruce and Ann Tiffany, Valda Thomas, Clifford and Marian Anderson, Donald and Jayne Ackman, Russel and Nancy Sowers, and Larry and Elizabeth Morgan.

A gift was given to the Blessing Box in memory of Sylvia Baumgartner from Jean Wieland.

Gifts have been given to the Lawn Irrigation System in memory of Sylvia Baumgartner, Merle Hanson, John Gartner, Edna Oldenberg, and in honor of John Lekander's birthday from David and Darlene Meidal.

Special Thanks

Thank you to the November serving group. We appreciate all the fantastic help serving coffee, working at funerals, providing cakes or bars, and helping with the Lucia Breakfast. Your help truly made a difference! Thanks team!

Sincerely, Laurie B. and Jo C.

Thank you to the October serving group. It was such a busy month with three funerals, a wedding and Confirmation. Thank you for volunteering to work, bake cakes and serve. It was greatly appreciated. Thank you, Mattie Baumgartner and Darlene Meidal

Thanks to all who turned out to "fluff" and decorate the church for the Advent Season. Thank you to Scott and Joel for your help. Jerry and Lana Johnson and Sue Lemmer

The family of Einar Olaf Lundin would like to express our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of kindness, support, comforting words, hugs, meals & memorials. A special thank you to Pastor Tom, Pastor Mindy, Carol Dragt, Adam Stern, Kipp, kitchen workers & everyone who contributed bars. Dad was a lifelong member of First Lutheran, his faith was always a part of his life. God bless.

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

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 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;

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: Wendy Norine

Litchfield, in own home: Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller

VA Health Care, St. Cloud: Gordon "Bud" Johnson, Richard Allen

Hilltop Health Center, Watkins: Elois Johnson



Widow's Grief Support

1st and 3rd Thursday of each
Month, in the Conference Room
at 12:30 p.m.

All are Welcome!

Congregational Annual Meeting: January 26, 2025

The annual congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 26, at 10:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary (following worship).

All are welcome to attend to share in a review of the past year's ministry, and a look ahead to the coming year of mission. The meeting will include election of congregation leaders and **2025** budget approval.

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m., with the Annual Meeting to follow (approximately) 10:00 a.m. A quorum is required.

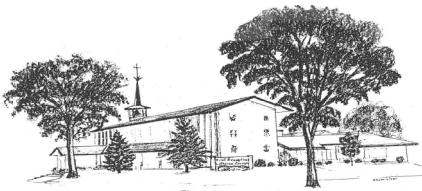
MST-2026 is serving a French Toast Breakfast
from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



**No WELCA Meeting
January 2025**

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 **January 15th**
For the **NEXT ISSUE: February 2025**



FIRST NEWS

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

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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Litchfield, MN
55355

Address Service Requested



Ministry Staff:

Rev. Tom Evenson, Senior Pastor
firstsr@hutchtel.net

Rev. Micheal Buller, Associate Pastor
pastormbuller@gmail.com

Heidi Thoma, Education Coordinator
heidithoma3@gmail.com

Judy Berglund, Office Manager
firstoffice@hutchtel.net

Sara Rick, Bookkeeper
firsttr@hutchtel.net

Carol Heath, Financial Secretary
firsttr@hutchtel.net

Carol Dragt, Director of Music/Non-Traditional, Organist

Katie Hulterstrum, Choir Co-Director

Joan Anderson, Choir Co-Director

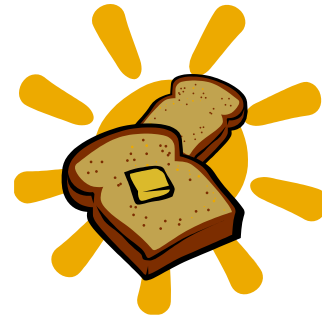
Kipp Kleinschmidt, Media Director
firstmedia@hutchtel.net

Scott Nelson, Custodian

Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

LIKE us on Facebook!
Or Follow us on Youtube!



Sunday

January 26, 2025

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

MST 2026

French Toast Breakfast

Chilstrom Hall

2025 Annual Meeting - Sunday
January 26, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
in the Sanctuary
Following 9:00 a.m. Worship