



# FIRST NEWS

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

MAY 2025

## Moment with Michael

MAY 2025

**“Remember how [Jesus] told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.’ Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and the rest. But these words seemed to them and idle tale, and they did not believe them.” Luke 24: 6-9, 11**

The poet Robert Burns was tilling the soil of his garden, readying it for planting. As he turned the soil, he noticed a sudden commotion unfolding right before him. A group of small mice scattered every which way, seconds before his foot was to fall upon a little home this group of mice had made. He immediately stopped all activity, moved his foot off to the side, and avoided the disaster that could have happened.

All this unexpected commotion, this excitement, this surprise got Mr. Burns thinking; thinking about the unanticipated events that happen in life, which tend to wreck the careful plans that we have made. He thought about all the work we do, and how easily we can be let down, or how in a moment everything can be taken away.

This event in the garden inspired Robert Burns to write a poem called, *To A Mouse*, from which a now famous line declares, “the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry.” This poem would later inspire and author named John Steinbeck to write the classic novel, *Of Mice and Men*.

Plans go awry, life doesn’t always work out as we intend, death happens: This is the reality we live in. If we like it or not, we will make mistakes, we will feel disappointment, we will endure loss. Rather than trying to avoid these truths, it serves us best to look to Jesus and draw our strength from God’s plan for our salvation.

As the women told the disciples about what they encountered at Jesus’ tomb, their words seem to be nothing more than an “idle tale”; after all death is the end. They simply could not comprehend, could not process, could not accept that such a story could possibly be true. So, naturally they did not believe them.

We all have plans. All of us have ideas about what could be improved, what could be altered, what could be changed. Yet, in the end our best laid plans often go awry. God’s plan for our salvation begins with an empty tomb and a Risen Savior. We are called to share this story, the story of Jesus’s resurrection. Any other plan will only get in the way.

Let the story of Easter morning have the final say. Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

Pastor 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

Dear Lord,  
This morning as  
I contemplate  
A new day.  
I ask you to help me.  
I want to be aware of  
your spirit - Leading  
me in the decisions  
I take,  
The conversations  
I have, and the work  
I do. I want to be  
more like you, Jesus.  
As I relate to the  
people I meet today-  
Friends or strangers.

# Church Council

## "GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS."

### PRESIDENT:

Karla Hyberger

### VICE PRESIDENT:

Karla Kadelbach

### SECRETARY:

Mattie Baumgartner

### TREASURER:

Jim Cottington

### Team Representatives:

Christian Education/

Youth & Family:

Abby Hemmingway

Amy Nelson

Sabrara Evenson

Karla Hyberger

Alexis Engelke

Stewardship & Finance:

Karla Kadelbach

Jim Cottington

Julie Bredeson

Social Ministry/

Evangelism:

Meredith Elj

Abby Hemmingway

Sabrara Evenson

Betty Allen

Karla Kadelbach

Karla Hyberger

Endowment/Memorial:

Julie Bredeson

Jim Cottington

Property:

Mattie Baumgartner

Tanner Eberling

Betty Allen

Worship:

Meredith Elj

Amy Nelson

Alexis Engelke

Personnel:

Karla Hyberger

Tanner Eberling

MST:

Karla Kadelbach

Sabrara Evenson

Tanner Eberling

Church Council Meeting

April 15, 2025

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:

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

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

2028: Jim Cottington, Julie Bredeson, Alexis Engelke, Meridith Elj

Devotions: Sabrara Evenson

Additions to agenda: reading of correspondence

Secretary Report: motion to approve as read by Karla K, second by Sabrara E.

Treasurer Report: Jim C reported on some inaccurate reports and much discussion followed. Jim will continue to meet with staff and with Shepherd's Staff to continue to improve the accuracies of the reporting system and will report back next month.

Committee Reports:

Pastor Tom E./Pastor Michael B.

See written reports

Worship Team

Easter Schedule is confirmed, Summer Worship schedule will be 9 am.

Church Property Team

See written reports. The congregation liked the extra handicapped signs and requested for larger events we dedicate a whole row to handicapped parking.

Christian Education/Youth Team

See written report. There will be a drama on Good Friday VBS is scheduled for June 9,10,11<sup>th</sup> April 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday School ends.

Social Ministry/Evangelism Team

May 7<sup>th</sup> is Spring Luncheon.

Endowment Team

No report.

Stewardship/Finance Team

No meeting but will be looking to update Newsletter and possible web site.

Personnel Team

No meeting

Old Business

Synod Reps

Looking for volunteers on June 7<sup>th</sup> to attend meeting in Dassel 8:30 to 4:30, please let Karla H or Pastors know if you are interested.

Holy Week

Schedule is set.

COOP calendar

Memorial Day service in Grove City, June 30<sup>th</sup> Beckville Park, August Meeker Co Fair, and Labor Day is Cosmos.

June Council Meeting

Moved to June 24 at 7 pm.

New Business

Checking to Savings money discussion

A motion was made by Sabrara E and seconded by Julie B that the Treasurer Jim C be granted the authority with the guidance of the financial team to keep three months of money for operational expenses in checking account and the remainder of the balance to be invested in a money market or CD. Motion approved.

# Stewardship & Finance

## General Fund:

Total Income for the month of Mar. 2025: \$20,910  
Expenses for the month of Mar. 2025: \$46,104

## Year to Date:

Income as of March 2025: \$71,999  
Expenses as of March 2025: \$136,619

## *In the News*

Submitted by the Finance Team

Proverbs 3:9-10: *Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*

Jesus taught that giving should be motivated by a heart of generosity and love for others. Giving should be focused on the important principles of justice, mercy and faithfulness.

There are three types of tithes mentioned in the Old Testament. The Sacred Tithe is given for the members and pastors for their service in the pulpit and as a congregation. The Festival Tithe is given for celebrations and feasts and the last is the Poor Tithe which is given to support those in need and that everyone has basic needs.

Our GLOBAL MISSIONS offering for the month is: Lutheran World Relief

CLIPBOARD MISSIONS: this opportunity is found in the narthex, there are three clipboards to sign up on. The offering to support these missions is \$40.

World Missions: Rev. Aaron and Kelly Fuller

MAM: Meeker Area Ministries (includes emergency housing)

ROBLEALTO: Costa Rica Bible Camp

## *Council minutes continued...*

Roblealto

Discussion was had to encourage more participation in the mission. Most do not have a full understanding of what they do and FLC would like to be pro-active and educate our membership regarding the ability and mission of Roblealto and establish a monthly sponsorship. A motion was made by Julie B and seconded by Karla K to set up a new clip board at 40.00 per week for their general fund need. The church would utilize line item for Roblealto Child Care Mission. Motion approved

Synod

Synod offering each year FLC gives 1000.00 (dues) to the Assembly. They are asking FLC to challenge all others to give the same.

Dates To Remember

May 4: High School Senior Recognition at 9 am.

May 6: Team Meetings.

May 7: Spring Luncheon 11 am.

May 15: New Member Orientation meeting. 7 pm

May 18: New member Sunday with congregational Potluck.

May 20: Council Meeting 7 pm.

May 25: COOP Worship at Windmill Park, Grove City 10:45 am.

Closing and Prayer:

Pastor Michael

Adjourn 903 pm

Mattie Baumgartner

Secretary



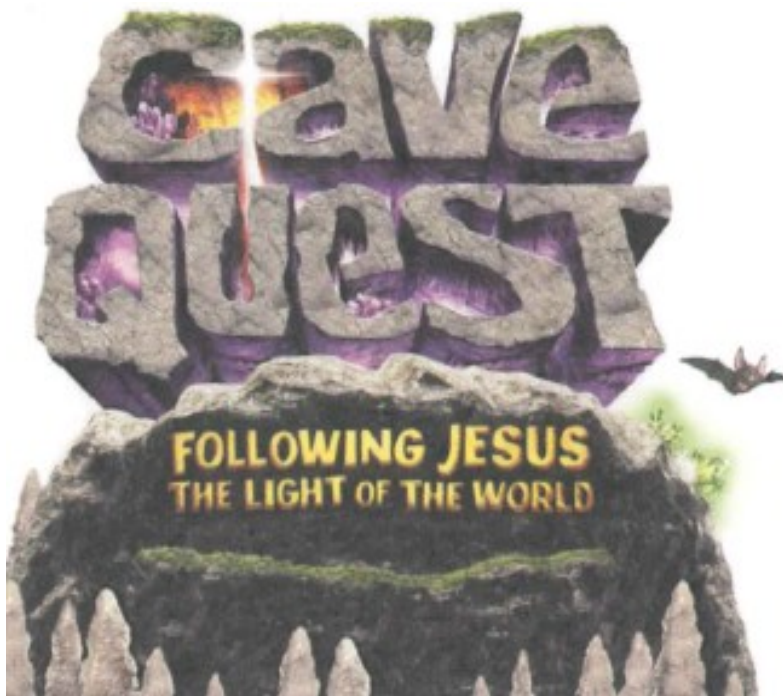
# Youth Pages

Our students have received instruction and their First Communion on Sunday April 27, 2025:



Front row from left: Kaisyn Miller - Parents, Andy and Sara Miller, Jude Ludowese - Parents, Steve and Sadie Ludowese, Braydon Lay- Janke - Grand Parents, Kipp and Lynette Kleinschmidt, Esmae Boll - Parents, Brian and Rebecca Boll.

Back row from left: Pastor Tom Evenson, Parker Williams - Parents, Grant and Brooke Williams, Minister Amy Nelson, Beau Snodgrass - Parents, Chelsea Snodgrass & Ben Kranz, Pastor Michael Buller.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 9, 10, & 11, 2025

5:30 to 7:00 pm

Ages Pre-K through 6th Grade

Supper will be served

Sign up in the church office or  
call to register 320-693-2487



## A NOBLE EXAMPLE

Proverbs 31 describes a God-honoring woman. How are the women in your life like her? How can you follow their example?

Directions: Use the word bank to complete all the Bible verses. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Proverbs 31:30, NIV.



### WORD BANK

bread, household, women, laugh, children, clothed, speaks, husband, tongue



She is \_\_\_\_\_ with strength and dignity;  
she can \_\_\_\_\_ at the days to come.

She \_\_\_\_\_ with wisdom,  
and faithful instruction is on her \_\_\_\_\_.

She watches over the affairs of her \_\_\_\_\_  
and does not eat the \_\_\_\_\_ of idleness.

Her \_\_\_\_\_ arise and call her blessed;  
her \_\_\_\_\_ also, and he praises her:

"Many \_\_\_\_\_ do noble things,  
but you surpass them all." Proverbs 31:25-29, NIV

Charm is \_\_\_\_\_eptive, and be\_\_\_\_\_ty is fl\_\_\_\_\_eting; but a  
woma\_\_\_\_\_ w\_\_\_\_\_o f\_\_\_\_\_rs the Lo\_\_\_\_\_d is to be prais\_\_\_\_\_d.

Proverbs 31:30, NIV



# Congratulations Class of 2025!!



Kiera Olson  
Parents, Jeff & Amy Olson  
Open House: May 24th  
2-5 pm, Chilstrom Hall



Janelle Quast,  
Parents, Timothy & Bernita Quast  
June 1st from 12 pm - 2:30 pm  
Open House: 4 B'z Event Center  
905 W 5th St., Litchfield



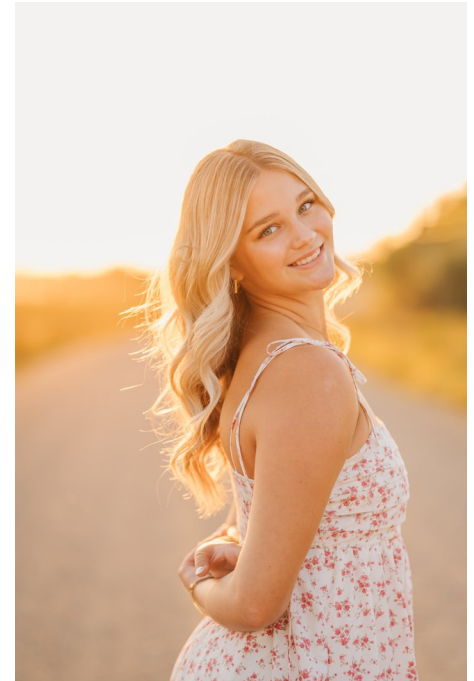
Ethan Lease  
Parents, Daniel & Heather Lease  
Open House: June 1st from  
2-5pm. 931 Ames Ave,  
Litchfield



Gavin Marotte  
Parent, Misty Marotte  
Open House: June 7th from  
1-4 pm. 830 Cottonwood Ave.  
Litchfield



Leah Wilson  
Parents, Crystal & Justin Wilson  
Open House: May 31st 3 - 7 pm  
Chilstrom Hall



Kira Kuechle  
Parents, Todd & Sarah  
Kuechle. Open House  
May 31 from 5-8 pm  
20363 624th Ave.,  
Litchfield

Not pictured:  
Benjamin Driver, Kamryn McWherter and Jasmine Solorio



**Hey there, GLLM partners!** We have some exciting news - we've revamped our logo to capture our ministry's vibrant and radiating mission and are beginning to roll it out! **Keep an eye out so you don't miss important communication.** Thanks for being an important partner in ministry with us!

# 2025 SUMMER CAMP

June 8-12	<b>Confirmation Up North</b> at Camp House
June 15-19	<b>Youth Programs</b> at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp <b>Pastor's Family Camp</b> at Green Lake Bible Camp <b>Ordinary Time</b> at Camp House
June 22-26	<b>Youth Programs</b> & <b>Fishing Camp</b> (grades 5-7) at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp <b>Ordinary Time</b> at Camp House
June 29-July 5	<b>Ordinary Time</b> at Camp House
July 6-10	<b>Grandparent &amp; Grandchild Camp</b> (July 6-9) at Green Lake Bible Camp <b>Ordinary Time</b> at Camp House
July 13-17	<b>Onsite Day Camp &amp; Youth Programs</b> at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp <b>Family Camp</b> at Green Lake Bible Camp <b>Ordinary Time</b> at Camp House
July 20-24	<b>Youth Programs</b> & <b>Fishing Camp</b> (grades 7-9) at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp <b>Camp Joy</b> (July 21-24) at Green Lake Bible Camp
July 27-31	<b>Onsite Day Camp &amp; Youth Programs</b> at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp <b>Grandparent &amp; Grandchild Camp</b> (July 27-30) at Green Lake Bible Camp



We can't wait to have you join us this summer at one of our beautiful sites, to pause, reflect, and experience an amazing community with our staff and with each other.

**Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp** New London, MN

**Green Lake Bible Camp** Spicer, MN

**Camp House** Brimson, MN

This schedule is subject to change and some programs fill quickly. Use our online registration system to view current program availability or call us at 320-796-2181.

## Youth Programs includes

Half Blast, Base Camp, Trailblazers, Stargazers, and Community Guides.

Program eligibility is based on the grade your camper has **completed** by the summer of 2025. Confirmation Up North is open to confirmation-aged students with a leader.

The camp week begins Sunday afternoon. Full-week overnight camp programs end Thursday evening with Campapalooza. Half Blast ends Tuesday evening with a closing worship.

## Grades Program

K-5	Onsite Day Camp
1-4	Half Blast
2-5	Base Camp
5-7	Trailblazers
5-9	Fishing Camp
7-9	Stargazers
10-12	Community Guides

## DISCOUNTS

### Early Bird Discount

\$65 off each program through February 13.

### Sibling Discount

\$25 for a full week  
\$15 for Half Blast

*No discounts apply to Ordinary Time, Onsite Day Camp, or Camp Joy.*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**December 12, 2024**  
Registration Opens

**January 16, 2025**  
Blocks Released

**February 13, 2025**  
Early Bird Discount Ends

**May 22, 2025**  
Final Camper Payments Due

**GLLM.ORG/SUMMER**

**Need help? Don't hesitate to contact us today! 320-796-2181 or camp@gllm.org**





Wayne Larson  
Friday, April 25, 2025

Please keep his family and friends  
in your prayers.



Meeker County Food Shelf  
**Pack the Pews for March 2025**  
First Lutheran Family donated **668 pounds** of  
food and **\$2340** in monetary donations.  
Thank you everyone!



Nosey offering collected on  
Palm Sunday: \$691.13  
Raised for Roblealto  
Child Care Association



MST 2026 donated \$560.00

Let us hold fast the confession  
of our **HOPE**  
without wavering, for He who promised is  
**FAITHFUL.**  
Hebrews 10:23, NKJV



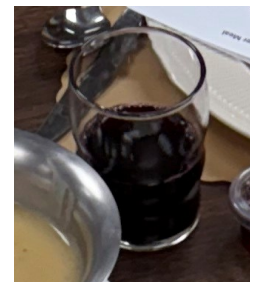


# Passover Seder



Pastor Michael led the congregation on this special evening.  
Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025

The Passover Seder is a ritualistic meal celebrated at the beginning of Passover, focusing on retelling the story of the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt. It's a structured meal with specific readings, prayers, songs, and the consumption of symbolic foods, all designed to bring the Exodus story to life.





# Seder Meal





# Churchwide



## MAY

### Worship Schedule

#### Sunday, May 4, 2025 - HS Seniors/Quilts

9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion

10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

#### Wednesday, May 7, 2025

11:00 a.m. Communion Luncheon

6:30 p.m. Worship in Chapel

#### Sunday, May 11, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion

10:00 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

#### Wednesday, May 14, 2025

6:30 p.m. Worship in Chapel

#### Sunday, May 18, 2025 New Members

9:00 a.m. Worship w /Communion

10:00 a.m. Pot Luck

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

#### Wednesday, May 21, 2025

6:30 p.m. Worship in Chapel

#### Sunday, May 25, 2025

10:45 a.m. ELCA COOP Worship Service  
Windmill Park, Grove City

*No worship service held at FLC*

#### Wednesday, May 28, 2025

6:30 p.m. Worship in Chapel

#### Cable TV Broadcast Schedule

Cable TV broadcast worship services from the prior week. There is a Lutheran broadcast every day of the week at 11:00 a.m. except Saturday!

These services are broadcast at 11:00 a.m. on

Community Access Cable TV:

Channel 7 Mediacom and Channel 13 Nuvera.

#### Weekly Rotation for Cable TV Broadcasts:

Sundays 11am: Litchfield Area ELCA Coop Worship from previous Sunday

Mondays 11am: Litchfield Area ELCA Coop Worship from previous week

Tuesdays 11am: Worship with First Lutheran, Litchfield

Wednesdays 11am: Litchfield Area Coop ELCA Worship from Sunday

Wednesdays 8pm: Litchfield Area ELCA Coop Worship from Sunday

Thursdays 11am: Worship with Trinity Lutheran, Grove City

Thursdays 3 pm: Worship with First Lutheran, Litchfield

Fridays 11am: Worship with Zion Lutheran, Litchfield

## Special Dates...

- National Day of Prayer, May 1, 2025
- Mother's Day, May 11, 2025
- Armed Forces Day, May 17, 2025
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 19, 2025
- Memorial Day, May 26, 2025
- Ascension Day, May 29, 2025



## Memorial DAY WEEKEND

**Sunday, May 25th**

ELCA COOP Worship  
Windmill Park, Grove City

10:45 a.m.

Bring your lawn chair

(no service held at First Lutheran Church)

## MOVIE NIGHT

**Saturday, May 17, 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.





# May Calendar

May 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
First Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 South Sibley Ave Litchfield, MN 55355 320-693-2487				<b>1</b> 7:55 am "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm Widow's Grief Support, Conf. Room 6:00 pm Den Mtg., Chilstrom	<b>2</b> 10:00 a.m. Visitation 11:00 a.m. Funeral, Iona Albright	<b>3</b> 8:00 a.m. Men's Group
<b>4</b> HS Senior Quilts/ Recognition 9:00 am Worship w / Comm., & Baptism, Henry Issacson 10:00 am Fellowship & Coffee with Cake 6:00 pm 4-H Meeting	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm Scouts Accepting MST Garage Sale Donations	<b>6</b> 7:30 am BREW 8:30 am Quilters 2 pm Workshop @ Mkr. Manor 5:30 pm Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 pm NA – Chapel 6:30 pm Exec. Team Mtg. 7:00 pm Team Meetings	<b>7</b> 10 am *TBI Support Group 11:00 am Comm. Luncheon 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chapel	<b>8</b> 7:55 am "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Scout Mtg. SS Assembly Room 7:00 pm Scout Leaders, Chilstrom Hall	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM MST – Garage Sale
<b>11</b> Mother's Day 9:00 am Worship w /Comm. & MST-Costa Rica Presentation 10:00 am Fellowship & Coffee	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm Scouts	<b>13</b> 7:30 am BREW 8:30 am LAMA Meeting 6:30 pm NA – Chapel	<b>14</b> 10 am *TBI Supp. Group, 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chapel 7:00 pm Priscilla Circle	<b>15</b> 7:55 am "Open Gate" KLFD 12:30 pm Widow's Grief Support, Conference Room 1:30 pm WELCA Meeting 6:00 pm Den Mtg, Assembly 7:00 pm New Mem/Orientation	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8:00 a.m. Men's Group 5:00 pm Movie Night, Holy Word Theater
<b>18</b> New Member Sunday 9:00 am Worship w/Comm., New Members & Baptism, Kenna & Nora Forster 10:00 am Pot Luck Brunch	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Rachel Circle 6:30 pm Scouts	<b>20</b> 7:30 am BREW 9:00 am Martha Circle 11:00 am Private Family Gathering, Chilstrom Hall 1:30 pm Graveside Service, Robert Manson, Ripley Cemetery 6:30 pm NA – Chapel 7:00 pm Council Meeting	<b>21</b> 10 am *TBI Supp. Group 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chapel	<b>22</b> 7:55 am "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Ecumen Worship, Bethany Chapel, 5:30 pm Scout Graduation, Chilstrom Hall	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 2:00 - 5:00 pm Graduation Party, Kiera Olson, Chilstrom Hall
<b>25</b> 10:45 am ELCA COOP Worship Service, Windmill Park, Grove City No service held at FLC	<b>26</b> MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed	<b>27</b> 7:30 am BREW 8:30 am Quilters 6:30 pm N/A, Chapel	<b>28</b> 10 am *TBI Supp. Group 4:30 pm Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship w/Comm., Chapel	<b>29</b> 7:55 am "Open Gate" KLFD 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 8:00 a.m. Men's Group 3:00 - 7:00 pm Graduation Party, Leah Wilson, Chilstrom Hall

# Serving Group & Birthdays

<b>MAY 2025 SERVING GROUP</b>	Bryan & Linda Larson
<b>Chairs:</b>	Gary & Lori Larson
<b>Ruth Massingham</b>	Tyler & Elaina Larson
<b>James &amp; Elaine Lenhard</b>	Daniel & Heather Lease
Ben Kranz & Chelsea Snodgrass	David & Deanna Lease
Kathy Kronbeck	Jonathan & Penny Lease
Russell & Shirley Kronbeck	Mitch & Jordyn Lease
Todd & Sarah Kuechle	John & Shirley Lekander
Allene Lachelt	Allen and Dana Liestman
Tony Laidlaw	Charlie & JoAnn Lindstrom
Michael & Debra Langmo	Ramona Lohse

## May Ushers 9:00 a.m.

John Lekander  
Brian Findley  
Jim Asmus  
Nick Benson



**May**  
Meredith Elj



AND *now* these  
THREE remain:  
FAITH, HOPE & LOVE.  
But the greatest of  
these is LOVE.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13, NIV

### MAY 1

Andrew Desens  
Samuel Gruenke  
Emma Hoff  
Noah Hoff  
Robert Kadelbach  
Nicole Schmitz  
Nicole Hable/White

### MAY 2

Ashley Holmgren  
David Jacob Kalkbrenner  
Lori Larson  
Jesse Lundin  
Laila Mickelson

### MAY 3

Richard Elam  
Christina Guza  
Levi Hanson  
Linda Holtz  
Bruce Lee  
Gaylene Thomas

### MAY 4

Mark Bredeson  
Arlo Prechel

### MAY 5

Audrey Desens  
Benjamin Miller

### MAY 6

Eric Hein  
Judy Hultstrum  
Kiera Olson  
Gary Pierce  
Leo Roush  
Jill White

### MAY 7

Henry Adams  
Lisa Barto  
Richard Farmer  
Donna Gilsrud  
Aurora Haas  
Myra Johnson

### MAY 8

### MAY 9

Heather Burdick  
Emily Driver  
Matthew Sook

### MAY 10

Susan Elam  
Jude Ludowese

### MAY 11

Betty Allen  
Nicholas Graff  
Megan Lundin

### MAY 12

Alex Carlson  
Cade Cervin

### MAY 13

Sandra Bostrom

### MAY 14

Ryan Block

### MAY 15

Megan Boyle  
Jerry Freitag  
Coralynn Gabrielson  
Millard Hickman

### MAY 16

Marlys Elam  
Darlene Meidal  
Amy Nelson  
Amanda Polzin

### MAY 17

Kristen Nelson  
Jeffrey Olson

### MAY 18

Will Dolan  
Larry Griffin  
Chad Mahlow  
Daryn Worden

### MAY 19

Tamara Borowicz  
Darla Johnson  
Tamra Thompson  
Carter Zeppelin  
Trevor Zeppelin

### MAY 20

### MAY 21

Carol Heath  
Jean Larson

### MAY 22

Esmee Boll  
Angela Larson-Weimer  
Leah Wilson

### MAY 23

Matthew Carlson  
Paul Martin  
Emily Sommerfeld

### MAY 24

### MAY 25

Isaiah Matheson  
Lukas Wahl

### MAY 26

Brian Findley

### MAY 27

Dustin Nelson

### MAY 28

Jacob Bredeson  
Kris Cervin

Debra Cziok  
Jane Hickman  
Michael Husmann  
Gladys Johnson  
Lisa Steichen

### MAY 29

Wayne Carlson  
Colby Christensen  
Hudsen Gabrielson  
Bridget Judes  
Emily Michels  
Zachary Piepenburg

### MAY 30

Travis Hanson  
Timothy Pierce  
Katie Silverberg

### MAY 31

Joshua Bailey  
Jeffrey Ballard  
Charlene Garrison  
Dalen Jones  
Paxton Peterson  
Kaitlyn Moore

We're back...have you had a chance to ask us about our trip to Costa Rica??!

We had an amazing trip serving the Lord and the Roblealto Bible Home staff and children!

**The MST Costa Rica 2025 team will be presenting a slideshow and team testimonials at church on Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00am!** Come join us to see pictures, learn more about our mission work, our service project, our free time excursions, all the beautiful children we met, the amazing leaders and teachers, Costa Rica, and the mission of Roblealto.

Some MST Costa Rica 2025 team members will be available during coffee hour for more questions and conversation. We will be showcasing information about the MST Costa Rica trip - history, goals, and mission of Roblealto, as well as the differences and similarities in each year we have served at the Bible Home!

Our highlights:

- ⇒ Sharing meals with the children and foster families
- ⇒ Building a fence with big muscles and no power tools...in 2 days!
- ⇒ Great teamwork and working hard for others
- ⇒ Evening conversations as a team
- ⇒ Meeting new people and learning to communicate despite language barriers
- ⇒ Coffee, fruit, and trying new foods
- ⇒ Lots of exercise and sunshine
- ⇒ A bit of relaxation in the cloud forest, the ocean, the mountains
- ⇒ Spending time with the foster moms by sharing encouragement and time
- ⇒ Laughter, smiles, and games with the children of Roblealto
- ⇒ Tour of the Roblealto dairy farm

We are looking forward to an exciting opportunity to host Natalia Ugalde, international volunteer coordinator for the Roblealto Association, in September. She is looking forward to meeting our congregation and community members. More details to follow on dates, times, and agenda.

**A HUGE thank you to our church family and friends for the prayers, words of kindness, and monetary support!** We had an amazing trip and can't wait to share it with you. If you are unable to make it to church on May 11<sup>th</sup>, please feel free to contact a team member to view the presentation and learn more.

Our sincerest thank you for helping us make this trip possible - Ann & Bruce Tiffany, Kris Myers, Kristi Quitney, Sara Rick, Pastor Tom, Janet & Gary Smith, Cade & Kris Cervin



# MST- Costa Rica 2025





# MST- Costa Rica 2025





## WELCA MINUTES April 17, 2025

WELCA met on April 17, 2025, in the Chapel with Jackie Kraushaar calling the meeting to order. The Purpose Statement was recited. Devotions were given by Jackie.

The secretary's report was approved as printed with a motion by Karla Kadelbach and a second by Marilyn Swanson.

The treasurer's report was approved as printed. Karen Eberhard had checked with Wells Fargo as to transfer funds to a CD. She was informed that Darlene Elam and Audrey Carlson were listed as key executives for WELCA on the bank records and JoAnn Lindstrom and Karen Eberhard were listed as signers for the checks. Before moving any money changes have to be made. A motion was made by Sue Lemmer with a second by LaVerne Decker to name Karla Kadelbach as the key executive and Karen Eberhard and Barb Piepenburg as check signers. Motion approved.

Thank you notes were read from Ecumen and LSS for our donation from our Harvest envelopes.

The WELCA soup supper was well attended and we received over \$300 in the freewill offering.

For the Spring Gathering in Cokato, the women will bring baby kits and quilts as the in-kind offering.

The property committee approved of a place to put the new freezer that WELCA wants to order. Jackie Kraushaar, Lana Johnson and Kris Nelson will research options and recommend a purchase for WELCA.

### Dates to Remember:

- May 3 – SW Synod Convention at Vinje in Willmar
  - May 4 – Blessing of the Quilts and Senior recognition service
  - May 7 – Senior Luncheon 11 am
  - May 10 – MST Garage Sale
  - May 15 – WELCA meeting, 1:30, Chilstrom Hall
- Servers are: Dee Bollin and Millie Neitzel

Thank you to Jackie Kraushaar for filling in as president and giving the devotions.  
Thank you to Karla Kadelbach and Jackie Kraushaar for serving today.

The Lord's Prayer and Table Grace were recited.

While dessert was plated, Carol Rowell read an article about Ladies Aid which was written by JoAnn Lindstrom.

Respectively submitted,

Sue Lemmer, Secretary





## Memorials, Gifts & Thanks

**A gift was given** to the Blessing Box fund from Gary Smith's Retirement party from Gary and Janet Smith.

**A gift was given** to the Blessing Box fund in memory of Ross Jakobitz from Gary and Janet Smith.

**A Gift was given** to the General Fund in memory of Bob Grroskreutz, in honor of Gary Smith's retirement, and in honor of JoAnn Lindstrom's birthday by Jean Wieland.

**A Gift was given** to the General Fund in memory of Lisa Harding by Jeffrey Harding.

**Gifts were given** to the General Fund in memory of Wayne Larson by Everett and Kathy Hantge, Corey and Kris Cervin and family, and Karla Kadelbach.

### Special Thanks

**Thank you** to the March Serving Group for your help serving Sunday morning coffee and treats. You are appreciated! Thank you! Robin & Dan Johnson, Jackie and Steve Kraushaar



# Thankoffering

Women of the  
**ELCA** 

“... gifts from individuals in  
gratitude for blessings.”

- Women of the ELCA Constitution

# Churchwide



Please join us for the  
**Spring Communion Luncheon**  
at First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
703 South Sibley, Litchfield, MN  
**Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.**  
Lunch and Fellowship to follow the service.



**New Member Orientation:**  
Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
**New Member Sunday:**  
May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM  
Potluck Brunch following service  
in Chilstrom Hall

High School Senior  
Recognition & Quilts  
Service  
Sunday, May 4, 2025,  
9:00 a.m.  
Cake and coffee  
after for fellowship



## WELCA THANKOFFERING (All women of FELC are members of WELCA)

For more than 100 years, Lutheran women have given thanks to God and dollars to mission through Thankofferings. Each woman would set aside offerings at home throughout the year, in thanksgiving for blessings received. And on occasion, the women would come together as we do today, joining their offerings together to support ministry of many kinds. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thankofferings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. In gratitude for all God has given to us, together, we do more than we could ever do apart.

The Thankoffering supports the WELCA Gathering Magazine, Bible studies for women, and cross cultural activities. These offerings are used to assist victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and to support Katie's Fund (assisting women in leadership) and Voices for Justice (Ex: promoting the 1000 Days Movement which supports child and maternal health for the first 1000 days of a child's life).

Please return your THANKOFFERING envelope (or use a regular envelope and label it THANKOFFERING) to the church office (or offering plate) so that we can continue our outreach. Your generosity makes a real difference in women's lives.

# Churchwide

**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**, Fort Riley, Kansas, grandson of Lil Madson;

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

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

**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.**



Be still, Receive God's Love, Embrace God's Word, Welcome the Day.

**B.R.E.W.**

meets every **Tuesday morning at 7:30 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,**

Lois Rusch, Meeker Manor

Wendy Norine, Bethany Home

Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller, Litchfield, in own home

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

Elois Johnson, Hilltop Health Center, Watkins



**WELCA Meeting 1:30**

**May 15, 2025**

**Widow's Grief Support**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each  
Month, in the Conference Room  
at 12:30 p.m.  
All are Welcome!

## CHURCH OFFICE



*hours*

Mon. - Thur. 8 AM - 4:30 PM

Fri. 8 AM - 12 PM

320-693-2487

Email: [firstoffice@firstlitchfield.org](mailto:firstoffice@firstlitchfield.org)

**WEBSITE:**

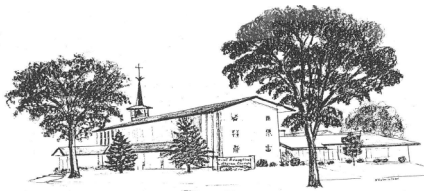
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**Please send submissions to: The Church Office by May 15th**

**For the NEXT ISSUE: June 2025**





## FIRST NEWS

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Scott Nelson, Custodian

Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487  
LIKE us on Facebook! Or Follow us on Youtube!



## **MST Rummage Sale**

Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

8:00 a.m. – Noon

Chilstrom Hall

We will accept your donations of gently  
used clothing, household items, toys,

books, games, etc.,

beginning on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Please understand that we are  
unable to accept the following:

Electronics, large furniture, exercise  
equipment, and encyclopedias.

We appreciate your support for  
MST 2026!