



# **First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Glencoe, MN**

## **January 2018 Church Newsletter**

**“Sharing Christ Changing Lives”**

### **God’s blessings to you in this new year of our Lord, 2018!**

I pray that your celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus was joyful and refreshing for you. As we come down off the emotional high of the Christmas season, we can still be filled with joy as we look forward in faith that the Lord Jesus Christ, who humbled Himself to come as a baby to be our Savior, is with us now every step of the way through this year ahead. As the seasons change, we go and grow with Him as He goes and grows with us.

We have no idea what the 2018, A.D. (Anno Domini, the year of our Lord) will bring. Will the days be productive or will they be painful? Will the nights be restless or will they be refreshing? Come what may, we have no need to worry, because through it all the blessing of God will rest upon us. He has put His name on us in our Baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection for us. We are His forgiven children blessed with the gift of eternal life. We are His, no matter what the new year brings. Jesus has overcome the world and all that stands against us. (Romans 8:28-37)

In confidence, with faith, hope, and trust, we rejoice in His blessing in this new year:

“The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.”  
(Numbers 6:24-26)

To which we respond with a resounding “Amen!”

*~In Christ, Pastor Dan Welch*

### **Celebrate the Savior and Financial Peace this January**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Happy Epiphany! Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” (Matthew 2:1-2)

On January 6, the Day of Epiphany, we celebrate the event when the wise men, or magi, followed the star that led them to the Savior of the world. These wise men were likely not believers in the coming Messiah, but only men interested in astrology. However, it is likely that these wise men believed in the prophecy of the Jewish Savior when that star led them to Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. As Matthew records, “(The wise men) rejoiced exceedingly with great joy” (v. 10) when they arrived where the child was.

Today, we rejoice with the wise men for what this baby — the Incarnate God — has done for us. We rejoice with songs of thankfulness and praise to the God-man who destroyed sin, death and the devil through His life, death and resurrection to all who believe in Him and His promises.

### **Upcoming Bible Studies**

Through Christ alone, do we have salvation? There is no other way. Beginning on January 7, I will be leading a Sunday morning Bible study on Islam. Throughout the history of the Christian Church, there have been many heresies, or false teachings, that have popped up to lead people away from Jesus Christ. In the sixth century, a man named Muhammed was one of those false teachers who claimed that the Old and New Testaments were flawed and only he had the correct teachings of ‘God’. In this study, I will compare the true teachings of the Christian Church with that of Islam.

Also beginning in January, I will begin teaching Dave Ramsey’s course Financial Peace University. The nine-week class begins on January 9 at 6:30 p.m. and will be in the First Lutheran Church fellowship center each Tuesday. Dave Ramsey uses Biblical principles in helping people manage their money better. Financial Peace University is designed to help everyone take better control of your finances, get out of debt and create a plan for your future. My wife Melissa and I attended this course while at Concordia Seminary. At first, I was not sure about this class, but after the first session, I was hooked and I wanted to learn more about getting our finances in order. Dave Ramsey presents this course in an easily understood way and I would recommend this class to everyone in the congregation whether you consider yourself good at finances or you are not. Since this is a class with curriculum, there is a fee to take this course, which is \$109. This fee is the same for couples or an individual. If ten or more couples or individuals sign up, there is a group discount offered by Financial Peace University. If you need assistance or would prefer to make 3-4 installments payments through the course of the class, please note this when registering. The sign-up list is currently available in the Fellowship Center. Again, please prayerfully consider Financial Peace University.

May the Triune God bless you this January as we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

*~In Christ, Pastor Adelsen*

## Happy New Year members of FLC!

What a great year 2017 has been, and what a great year 2018 will be! God is continually working through what we are doing here at First Lutheran and it's such a great blessing to be a part of it! In the past month, we have finished our series on "Going the Distance" and how we are running this race of life WITH God, and what exactly that looks like. We are putting our heads together to figure out what our series is going to be for January until the summer. I have enjoyed seeing the growth of our high school ministry. It has been a true joy to work with all the youth and adults on those Sundays. If you ever want to know more about what we are doing with the youth, please come and talk to me. I LOVE sharing about how awesome they are! In the same sense our middle school youth group is doing so well too. I am hoping that having this program will bridge the gap from those ages of ending confirmation to starting into high school youth group. We want the kids to know that there is always more to learn, and there's a community of believers to be a part of.

Sunday School just wrapped up their program and we hope you enjoyed every minute of it! The kids take great pride in performing for you and the Lord; what a great way to tell the Christmas story. I always encourage them, and myself to really listen to that story. Never let it become a "cliche" story because that's the start of us being saved from our sins. What a great blessing that we have a loving God that did that for us. Thank you all for the wonderful 2017, and I look forward to reporting to you on the great things that will happen this year!

*~God's blessings, Tori Kidd*



<b>January</b> 7th & 21st 6:30-8:00 PM	<b>February</b> 4th ( <i>Superbowl Party</i> ) 16th-18th <i>Winter Retreat!</i>
<b>March</b> 4th & 18th 6:30-8:00 PM	<b>April</b> 1st- NO youth group Happy Easter! 15th (6:30-8:00PM)
<b>May</b> 6th & 20th 6:30-8:00PM	

**Located at**    
*Unless told otherwise!*

## Angel Seeds for 1st Quarter January – March 2018

In just 5 short months, 19 youth and 4 chaperones will be making their trek across the U.S. to Idaho Servant Adventures (ISA). For some of these kids, it will be their second time there and for others it will be their first; regardless they are all looking forward to serving! What a blessing it is to have these youth excited to go and be the hands and feet of Christ as we serve that community. Some of the things we may be doing there are rebuilding houses, helping split wood for those who can't anymore, and any other tasks they need us to do. One really neat thing about ISA is the kids get to be a great witness of their faith in Christ to the community not only because they are serving but they get to do their bible studies on site with those whom they are helping! Needless to say, this will be a great opportunity for all of us attending to grow in our faith.

Please prayerfully consider checking the "Angel Seeds" box on your offering envelopes for this quarter!

I want to say a big thank you to those of you who have helped support this group in any way! THANK YOU. We wouldn't be able to make this happen without your support!

--THE YOUTH PARTICIPATING: Ethan Bernstein, Lauren Bernstein, Morgan Bernstein, Elise Betcher, Liz Brelje, Morgan Dahlke, Becky Dammann, Jordan Grack, Abby Gruber, Bethany Hagen, Kyle Hagen, Caden Lang, Haley Lukes, Ella Malz, Emma Malz, Courtney Richer, Maggie Schuft, Sophia Touailat, Rebekah Welch. ~Tori Kidd DCE~

## 2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Have been mailed to members' homes. If you have not yet received your 1st quarter envelopes, please contact the church office.

Generic offering envelopes are available at each of the Welcome Stands for your convenience. Please write your name or your envelope number if you happen to know it on the outside of these envelopes.



## 2017 OFFERING STATEMENTS

In an effort to reduce the cost of mailing offering statements, we have decided to place them outside the work room in alphabetical order. They will be available for congregation members to pick up late January or early February. Should you need them prior to this time frame, please contact the church office and we'd be happy to help!

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY – “The Truth about Islam”

Starting January 7th, join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 for Adult Bible Class. We will begin a four-session Bible Study called “The Truth about Islam.”

With more than a billion adherents worldwide, Islam is only second to Christianity in terms of size and geographic spread. Despite this, most Christians in the United States and Canada have a limited understanding of Islam. More importantly, few Christians feel equipped to share the Gospel with the Muslims they meet. This study will help you gain a better understanding of Islam and how it relates to the Christian faith. Sessions include:

- ✦ *What is Islam?*
- ✦ *Islam’s Five Pillars*
- ✦ *Sharia*
- ✦ *The Love of Christ Compels Us*



### First Edition Book Club

will be watching the movie inspired by Karen Kingsbury’s book, “*A Time to Dance*”. All women are welcome and you

can enjoy the movie whether you’ve read the book or not. A potluck appetizer meal is planned for 6:30 PM on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lesa Hueser’s home (202 Fairway Drive, Glencoe). We will start the movie shortly after 6:30 (once everyone has “dished up”). *A Time to Dance* follows the bittersweet story of longtime couple John and Abby, whose separation is postponed when they find out their daughter is getting married. Determined not to spoil their daughter’s big moment, they secretly put their plans on hold only to have the wedding planning process draw them back together.



### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual FLS Silent Auction & Luncheon...

is scheduled for Sunday, March 4, 2018. Take the day off from cooking and enjoy delicious pulled pork meal all while placing your bid on the various items up for grabs. Mark your calendar & come support FLS!

**SILENT AUCTION: 9 AM -1 PM**  
**LUNCHEON: 11 AM – 1 PM**  
**LIVE AUCTION: 1 PM**

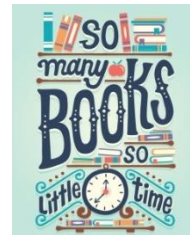
**Wall of Wine!** We are seeking donations of unopened bottles of wine for the Wall of Wine.

**Gift Certificates** are available to purchase in any amount you wish, and to be used at the Silent Auction on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2018. Stop in the School or the church office to purchase.

Donations are being accepted for this year’s event now and can be dropped off at the church office from 8 AM – 4 PM Monday – Friday. All donations are appreciated and will help to ensure this year’s event is successful! To volunteer or make a donation, please contact the church office at 864-5522 or a member of the Flame Boosters Club.

## LIBRARY NEWS:

Read and Return Books. Additional books in large print have been added in the lower right-hand side of the library. These are books about suspense and do not have library cards. Remember to Read, and Return Responsibly.



You will find many good books in the library that are written by well-known authors, (most are Christian writers) both in fiction and nonfiction. All these books make for good winter reading when weather, lack of sun or perhaps just the mood you are in warrants a good book. Rather than television, books have a way of taking you on a vacation of sorts, even if just for a short time. Check them out, some are educational as well!

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League  
Celebrating 75 Years as a Mission  
Organization



2017 marks the 75th anniversary of the LWML’s official national organization.

First Ev. Lutheran in Glencoe (as well as many other congregations) has had official women’s mission societies much longer. 1942 is the year those societies joined to promote missions on a national and global scale.

Here at First Lutheran, the first women’s mission organization known as “Ladies Aid” was organized in 1915. At that time, no women were voters and no women served on church boards or committees. The “Ladies Aid” held their meetings in the afternoons and conducted their meetings in German. In those early years, each member brought her own plate and coffee cup for lunch!

In 1930, a second women’s mission organization known as “The Missionary Society” was organized. Women still could not vote or serve on boards. This group met in the evening and conducted business in English. Both societies promoted missions. Realizing the advantage of joining with Lutheran sisters throughout the United States to encourage mission work on a large scale, both were quick to join the National LWML organization. Miss Della Wolf of First Ev. was instrumental in organizing the LWML societies in Minnesota into Minnesota North and Minnesota South districts.

Those two First Ev. societies have now merged into one with the name “First Ev. LWML.” They sometimes meet in the afternoons, sometimes in the evenings. The goal is to promote mission inspiration, mission education and mission service. Last year this group provided nearly \$1000 to the National and District LWML “Mites” mission goals as well as \$5000 for their own local and foreign mission projects. All donations are carefully and prayerfully considered. We only donate to causes that proclaim Christ. We praise God for all of the faithful women who have served Him and His LWML in the past and in the present. We also pray for the women, some still girls and some yet unborn, who will continue serving Him and proclaiming His redeeming love in the generations to come.

## FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN LWML

First Ev. LWML will meet Monday Jan. 8 at 1:30 p.m. for devotions, Bible Study, prayer and fellowship. We will commemorate the 75th anniversary of National LWML as well as reminisce about the early days of women's service here at First Ev. We will give thanks to God for the women who have served Him here at First Ev. in the past and those who serve Him now. We will pray for the girls and the girls yet unborn who will serve Him in the future. We will ask God for His guidance as we proclaim His redeeming love through the LWML. We will sing the new LWML Song "With Joy We Come Together." Mites will be collected. Refreshments will be served. Executive board will meet at 1:00 p.m. As always, guests are always welcomed. Please come for a fun afternoon.



**Happy January Birthday** to LWML honorary members: Ida Rutske and Lorraine Krumm. A \$5 gift has been given to LWML "mites" in your honor.

**ATTENTION LWML honorary members:** Have we remembered your birthday correctly? Please let us know if we made an error. Your honor is important!

## LUTHERAN HOUR TOPICS FOR JANUARY

Each Sunday during January at 12:30 pm listen to the Lutheran Hour over radio station KDUZ 1260 AM. This month you will hear the following program topics:

**Jan 7** "Breaking News!" with Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer. Epiphany calls us to believe that the Light has come into the world. A New Year's message about confidence, if you'll believe it! (Isaiah 60:1-6 "Arise, shine, for your light has come.")

**Jan 14** "How Well Does Jesus Know Me?" with Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus. It's nice to have someone know and understand you. Today the Lutheran Hour asks, "How do you feel about Jesus knowing you?" (John 1: 48-51)

**Jan 21** "Meeting Millennials Where They're at." with Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer.

Robots can't produce disciples. How can we mentor those who don't know Jesus, or don't know Him well enough? (Mark 1:14-20 "Jesus calls His first disciples.")

**Jan 28** "Cause I Said So." with Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus. Many have pretended to be the Messiah. In today's text, Jesus authority is recognized and obeyed by His competition. (Mark 1: 21-28)

Are you interested in helping support the Lutheran Hour broadcasts on KDUZ radio? You can sponsor a radio broadcast in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a family member or friend's birthday or anniversary. Many broadcasts are sponsored by groups within LCMS congregations as service projects. Support by groups is very helpful to cover those Sundays not covered by individual sponsors. Unless otherwise requested, sponsors will be announced over KDUZ on the day of the broadcast. For information about Sundays available for sponsorship and the cost to sponsor a broadcast call Chuck Jensen, 864-3579 or Rich Streufert, 864-6884 (e-mail richstreufert@embarqmail.com). Thank you for your support in helping spread the Gospel through these broadcasts. God's Word provides the light we need. Psalm 119:105



## LCEF YOUNG INVESTORS CLUB

When you help your child save for the future through the LCEF Young

Investors (Y.I.) Club, those dollars can also help someone else learn about Jesus. With an investment of just \$25 to open the Y.I. StewardAccount, your young investor becomes a Y.I. Club member with special fun activities that grow with [3 different age levels](#).

Each Y.I. StewardAccount level enjoys these benefits:

- Only \$25 to open an account
- Premium interest rate of 3.5% on balances up to \$1,000
- Savings grow with the child, but are accessible at any time
- Children enjoy online stories and activities.
- Special birthday card.

Y.I. Club Little Lambs (ages 0-6) also get:

Little Lambs Newsletter  
Little lamb stuffed animal

Y.I. Club Mission Builders (ages 7-12) also get:

Mission Builders Newsletter  
Mission Builders puzzle cube  
Extra credit to the account for good grades  
Extra credit to the account for community service hours

Y.I. Club World Changers (ages 13-18) also have available:

Debit card available at age 16  
World Changers online newsletter  
World Changers Drawstring backpack  
Extra credit to the account for good grades  
Extra credit in the investment for community service hours  
College scholarship program for high school seniors

For more information, contact the church office or visit [lcef.org](http://lcef.org)

## 2018 LCEF SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, will be awarded in each district of the LCEF Central Region. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior, or current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining. Candidates must also be members of a congregation belonging to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod located in one of the following LCMS districts: Iowa East, Iowa West, Minnesota North, Minnesota South, Nebraska, North Dakota, North Wisconsin or South Wisconsin.

2. The application deadline is January 31, 2018. Applications will not be considered valid unless all material requested is submitted with the application.

3. The scholarship will be awarded on merit and need, and distributed following successful completion of one semester (or term) at the accredited institution the student is attending.

4. All scholarships are subject to confirmation that the recipient is in compliance with all rules, and that all eligibility and recipient requirements have been met as discerned by the scholarship committee.

Additional questions about this scholarship may be directed to [maria.hendrickson@lcef.org](mailto:maria.hendrickson@lcef.org) or call toll free at 1-877-371-5233.

## **MEN'S CLUB – JANUARY 2018**

Men – Feb 4 – Mark That Date! We need your help for the Men's Club Potato Pancake Dinner. Help is needed for set up – grills, tables, mixers; kitchen food prep – potato peeling, mixing, frying; serving – ticket caller, dining, server, dishwashing; cleanup and take down. Call John Scheidt, 864- 3356 to reserve your spot to help with this dinner.

Proceeds from the Pancake Dinner go towards helping a number of projects and groups at First Lutheran. A few of the projects supported are the following: The Portals of Prayer monthly devotion books are provided with funds from the dinner. A contribution from the proceeds goes toward helping First Lutheran Youth on trips which they make. Attend the Pancake Dinner to learn more about the many projects which the Men's Club supports.

The Men's Club has scheduled and has coordinated the Lutheran Hour radio program on KDUZ for many years. Funds for the broadcasts are used when sponsors are not available. A special thanks goes to Lutheran Hour Broadcast Supervisor Chuck Jensen and Lutheran Hour Broadcast Treasurer Arnie Alsleben for their countless hours of service to make sure that the Lutheran Hour radio broadcasts are heard each Sunday. When you see Chuck and Arnie, be sure to thank them.

The Men's Club looks forward to seeing you on February 4 at the Pancake Dinner!

## **THE MEN'S NETWORK**

Men's Network January 2018

In January, the Men's Network begins a new topic. Men - watch your Sunday bulletin for topic information. On Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, we meet at St. John Lutheran in Plato.

The Men's Network provides men with a church setting where we discuss current events and how we as Christian men see the events in God's light and learn how to relate to what's happening in the world from a Christian's view. We have practical discussions and, yes, sometimes (many times!) theological discussions. These are good discussions. Your questions are always welcome. We are all learning no matter what level of faith we are at, on our Christian walk through life.

Depending on the time of year, sometimes the group may be half a dozen men. At other times, the group will be 16 or more. Men you are welcome to attend and we extend an open invitation for you to join us.

God's Word provides the light we need. Psalm 119:105

## **Radio Broadcasts --- Help get our Sunday Services heard!**

Do you listen to the Sunday morning radio broadcast aired once a month on KDUZ?

Did you ever notice that often times a member will sponsor these broadcasts to honor a special occasion or in memory of someone special?

If you've ever thought of sponsoring a broadcast, now is the time...we still have some unsponsored broadcasts in the coming months. Can you help?

The cost to sponsor the broadcast for one month is \$185. The sponsorship announcement would include the words "Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by...." If you are interested in sponsoring, please call or stop in the church office.



This ministry is possible thanks to the generosity of our sponsoring members as well as the Edwin and Ella Ponath Radio Broadcast Fund.



## **STORIES OF FAITH**

The Public Relations (PR) Team has invited members to share their stories related to situations or events in which they experienced God's love and providential care. If you are willing to share a "story of faith," contact the church office or a PR Team member. If you have a story, but would like help putting it on paper, please contact us as we'll be happy to assist!

Cindy Eggersgluess 238-2148

eggsgluecsscindy@gmail.com

Jeri Ring 864-4029

jring8655@aol.com

Lynn Exsted 864-6452

lexsted14@gmail.com

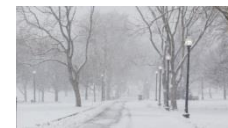
### In Search of a Simple Faith

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Simple faith begins with John 3:16, affectionately called "the Gospel in a nutshell." In the midst of the myriad of words that make up our days, the complexity of life's problems, the volumes of theological works that fill libraries, no matter what else we know, know this: "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him" (v. 17). Simple faith is saving faith. When we lie on death's door, we shall rely only on God's love for us. It is an immense, intense love, to the extent that Christ died on the cross to save us from eternal judgment. Simple faith is also strong faith, which remains uncluttered and clear in a world filled with confusion and chaos. There are so many temptations, forces, and trials that seek to chip away at our simple faith. In the midst of many unanswered questions, when our faith is weakest and most vulnerable, the Spirit prompts us again to know, believe, and confess that Jesus loves you. Jesus really does love you!  
- from Portals of Prayer

## **Snow Plowing During Storms**

**REMINDER:** Church members need to be aware that parking lots at the church are not plowed during snowstorms, but done after the snow has stopped. The exceptions to this are worship services and special events, such as weddings and funerals. Please be cautious if you need to come to the church during a snowfall!





## January 2018 News

### Thrivent Financial

➤ **Thrivent Choice** – This past month, we received another \$322 for church and \$407 for our school! Remember that as

Choice \$ are continually disbursed throughout the year....you must keep checking and directing. It's fast and easy to do. You can visit ([www.Thrivent.com/choice](http://www.Thrivent.com/choice)) or phone 1-800-847-4836 and say "Choice Dollars." Have your Thrivent ID# handy. You can phone Mon – Thurs from 7 am – 8 pm or Friday from 7 am to 6 pm. If you would like assistance, please contact the church office.

➤ **Thrivent Action Teams** –

A Thrivent Action Team is a simple, flexible way for you to bring people together to make a positive difference.....you might hold a fundraiser, conduct a service activity, or hold an educational event.

Visit [Thrivent.com/actionteam](http://Thrivent.com/actionteam) for more information or to complete the online application. You must make your request a minimum of 3 weeks (but less than 90 days) before your event. You'll sign on using your current user name and password. When applying, you'll be asked the proposed project date and details. Once you submit your application, you'll get an email within a week letting you know if it's approved.

When your project is approved, Thrivent will provide resources (Action Team Kit) to help you plan the event, promotional items (including Thrivent T-shirts to increase your visibility), and seed money to cover promotional and material expenses (\$250 Community Impact Card).

Each Thrivent member is eligible to lead two Action Teams per calendar year. Involve others – it's all about your friends, family and community coming together to make a positive impact! If you need inspiration, check out the "101 Thrivent Action Team Ideas" on the Resources page of the web site or on the Literature stands here at church.

➤ **Thrivent Magazine (Dec issue)** – Did anyone happen to see that Harvey & Norita Kath wrote a letter to the editor? What a delight to see their names!

Run the Numbers: Are you financially on target for retirement? Check out Thrivent's retirement planning calculator at [Thrivent.com/retirementcalculator](http://Thrivent.com/retirementcalculator)

Thrivent Financial is partnering with the nonprofit Hats & Mittens to collect and raise funds for 52,000 pairs of hats and mittens in conjunction with Thrivent's role as a Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee Partner. Hats & Mittens collects and raises money for warm weather gear for children in need. If you're in Minneapolis, drop off a donation and join Thrivent for the Super Hats & Mittens interactive event on Saturday, Jan 27, from 9 am to 1 pm. Enjoy complimentary food and beverages, a family activity and more. Cindy & Neil Eggersgluess - 320-238-2148 / [eggsgluecsscindy@gmail.com](mailto:eggsgluecsscindy@gmail.com)

Linda Becker, Charles Jensen, Verna & Harold Kunkel, Pastor Mathison, Amy Welch – Your Congregational Advocates



## Thank You

We are extremely blessed to have so many talented and generous individuals in our church, school, and community. Please share your personal thanks with each of them when you see them!

- Vernon Lindeman, Roger Montgomery, Terry Rowan, Wallace Wendorff, and Dennis Wolter for setting up the five trees and lights in the living room area and the fellowship center.
- Joan Wandrei, Sandy Kunkel, Arlene Rehmann, Rosie Karg, Becky Ostlie, Gloria Hilgers, Dennis Wolter and Darlene Dammann for decorating the fellowship center and the south entry. It took about 5 hours and one large pizza! We have fun and enjoy every minute of it!
- Elmer Schuette, Roger Montgomery and Donald Dammann who set up the manager scene outside the south entrance. Students from First Lutheran School helped carry out the figures for the manager scene from the storage area.
- Sheryl Mumm-Touailat (FLC recording secretary) for the donation of the color printer and ink. Sheryl's generosity has allowed us to print color bulletins for special services at no additional cost to the church!
- Brian Grochow for covering the cost of ink to print the Advent Worship Concert bulletins in color.
- Tangletown Gardens (Dean & Jill Englemann) for generously donating the large wreath in the chancel.
- The Altar Guild for kindly providing the poinsettias plants and helping to make our sanctuary beautiful throughout the Christmas season.
- The Board of Deacons who continually provide altar flowers for our Christmas services.
- The Jayson & Charity Neubarth family continues to provide snow removal for the church and school properties. They do this at no cost to the church. What a tremendous savings to our budget! We are very grateful.



Sunday Jan. 7 8:00 AM- Lauren Bernstein / Elise Betcher  
10:30 AM- Ella Malz / Alexis Dahlman

Sunday Jan. 14 8:00 AM- Zachary Dahlke / Caden Lang  
10:30 AM- Abigale Boetel / Mariah Wendolek

Sunday Jan. 21 8:00 AM- Beau Christensen / Logan Ober  
10:30 AM- Elijah Liestman / Mason Petron

Sunday Jan. 28 8:00 AM- Paris Stradtman / Brianna Tabbert  
10:30 AM- Margaret Schuft / Rebekah Welch

## Time with Me Children's Club

Is an activity group for children ages 2 to 4 years old to spend time with their parent(s)/guardian. We will nurture little ones spiritual and academic growth here at First Lutheran. Our theme this year is "God takes care of us as we grow". Our next session will be from 6:30 – 7:30 PM on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 in the Fellowship Center at FLC. This session will include Jesus' time, activity time, singing, and a snack. We will make a craft and a valentine. We'll learn about a boy who wore a coat of many colors (Joseph). Contact Linda Donnay 864-4159 with any questions.

### **Wednesday, January 31**

Joseph's Coat – FLC Fellowship Center

### **Tuesday, February 27**

Gym activities ~ FLS gym (Wear gym shoes)  
Bring a water bottle and your favorite tricycle or riding toy!

### **Tuesday, March 27**

Gym activities ~ FLS gym (Wear gym shoes)  
Bring a water bottle and your favorite tricycle or riding toy!

### **Wednesday, April 18**

Jesus calls his disciples – FLC Fellowship Center



## Bulletins From the Boards, Council & Committees

### Church Council |

The Church Council did not meet in December.  
The Next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday,  
January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.



### Christian Education Board | December 7<sup>th</sup>

No Summary Submitted

### Day School Board | December 5<sup>th</sup>

Wolf Ridge pizza sales were better than last year. Wolf Ridge students are also having an Advent Soup Supper on Dec. 6 before the service. Administrative lunch review went very well. Looking into making a GaGa ball court for the playground. Mr. Scheele accepted a "play date" offer by Zion, Cologne. This will be an all-day track and field day on May 18, 2018.

### Board of Deacons | December 7<sup>th</sup>

Deacons are setting up a security policy. A yearly appreciation service for Veterans Day was discussed. Lee will meet with Elders to talk about the job description and expectations on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The board has decided to purchase chancel flowers for Christmas. There was discussion about the street project. Special re-organization meeting is scheduled for January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm.

### Board of Evangelism | December 5<sup>th</sup>

No Summary Submitted

### Board of Stewardship | December 5<sup>th</sup>

No Summary Submitted

### Board of Trustees | December 4<sup>th</sup>

The trustees did not hold a regular meeting in December. They met several times regarding the street project.

### Youth Board | December 12<sup>th</sup>

No Summary Submitted

## 2018 Officers & Board Members

### CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:

**President:** Brian Grochow

**Vice President:** Les Engelmann

**Treasurer:** Mark Schmidt

**Secretary:** Sheryl Mumm-Touailat

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Cemetery:** Edgar Brelje, Jason Dahlke, Duane Klaustermeier, Dave Schiroo, Louie Tessmer, Don Wolff

**Christian Education:** Caitlin Freberg, Jen Goff, Angela Grimm, Donna Kunkel, Michelle Neubarth, Julie Uecker

**Day School:** Bill Brickzen, Grant Grochow, Kevin Hagen, Cindy Mathews, Kim Rislund, Tanner Schafer, Gina Schuft

**Deacons:** Dean Dahlke, Don Hepner, Terry (Lars) Ide, Les Schauer, Dean Scheele, Roger Schmidt, Brian Schuch, Jan (Fritz) Schulz, Dave Uecker

**Elders:** Wayne Ahlbrecht, Quinn Beneke, Bruce Bergmann, Doug Dahlke, Tim Halligan, Richard Jannusch, Stan Karg, Jon Lemke, Robert Schuft, Dave Sell, Joe Streufert, Lee Terlinden, David Wolff, Dennis Wolter

**Evangelism:** Jessica Becker, Tom Brinkmann, Becky Ostlie, Lori Schiroo, Roger Schultz, Mary Sellnow, Deb Tessmer, Betty Witthus.

**Stewardship:** Will Freberg, Sandy Luehrs, Karen Ober, Joe Streufert, Marilyn Vorbeck, Brad Werth.

**Trustees:** Randy Bussler, Kevin Cohrs, Loren Engelmann, Larry Kunkel, Harlan Mathews, Tim Proehl, Doug Schultz, Dave Witthus, Dave Wolff, Keith Zajicek.

**Youth:** Linda Becker, Annette Bernstein, Kathryn Brelje, Sara Dammann, Gabby Fountain, Cindy Litzau, Amanda Streufert

**WELCOME** to all newly elected officers, newly appointed board members, and re-appointed board members. We are thankful you have chosen or are continuing to serve here at FIRST! To those who are in the middle of their term, keep up the good work! We see all you are doing to bring glory to God through the various ministries of First Lutheran. Our heartfelt thanks to all whose terms of service ended in 2017. Your faithful service during this time is what continues to make First Lutheran a wonderful place to worship, fellowship, and serve together --- Sharing Christ, Changing Lives!

**A special message from Rebecca Wagner, a missionary working with the University Lutheran Chapel "Together in Missions".**

Dear friends in Christ, November 2017

"Christianity makes more sense than Buddhism", said Fiona.

That was three weeks ago. This morning we looked at Isaiah's prophecies of the Messiah in Isaiah 52-53 and how they are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. It's good to see that each time we meet, Fiona is more interested in learning about Christ and the peace and security given to Christians through faith. This from a student who told me when we first met she wasn't interested in religion.

Earlier this month I received an email from a University Lutheran Chapel student asking if I could meet up with her for a short devotion. We went through John 17, reading how Christ keeps us and even prays for us. Quite a few students struggle at times in college as their beliefs are challenged. But what does Christ say? "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world." (verse 14). This upcoming Sunday after church I am looking forward to an apologetics discussion with the ULC college students, to address the questions "What happens to people who never hear about Jesus Christ?" and "Why doesn't your church have woman pastors?"

Over the second weekend of November we took a group of students down to the University of Northern Iowa's Fall Fling, a theological study weekend at College Hill Lutheran (another campus ministry). The topic was "Hallmarks of Lutheran Identity" by Dr Alvin Schmidt. Although most of the hallmarks discussed were familiar (such as the

sacraments of communion and baptism, hymnody, the Solas), others triggered considerable discussion. For example, Pastor Schmidt emphasized that we should be aware of when we are reading the *antilegomena* books of the Bible (such as Hebrews and James), and expounded Luther's view of these books, leading to discussion on the history of the Biblical canon. At another point, Dr Schmidt argued that in the Doubting Thomas passage (John 20:24-29), as one of the 12 eyewitness apostles Thomas was right to demand physical evidence, and that when Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (verse 29), Jesus is not reprimanding him, but speaking especially to us who are not direct eyewitnesses. Therefore, our faith in the resurrection is not a blind leap, but is founded on reliable eyewitness reports of those who saw the marked hands of our risen Savior.

On a particularly memorable evening this month, Peter and I invited two young Mormon campus missionaries, Emma and Macy, over for dinner to talk about theology. We were glad that they were willing to listen to Lutheran doctrine and open the Bible with us to learn what is written about justification by faith. What a joy to be a missionary to missionaries, and share that the Law is not something we work to fulfill, but that Christ came on Christmas to fulfill the Law in its entirety for us!

God's blessings to you this Advent and Christmas season!  
~Rebecca Wagner

## First Lutheran School Flame Flash | January 2018 Newsletter

### Please Pray for:

- The people sharing the Good News of Christ in Cambodia, that the Holy Spirit might work faith in the hearts of the people.
- Thankful hearts, that we may never take what we have been given by our Heavenly Father for granted.
- Those less fortunate in our world, including religious and political refugees, the homeless, and repressed people everywhere.

### Thank You to:

- The School Board for providing goodie bags to all the children after the Christmas Service.
- The eighth graders, for always helping out with the chapel duties and the Young Investors Program.
- Coborns for donating the peanuts for the Children's Christmas service goodie bags.
- Becky Edwards for helping with the Young Investors Stamp Program and running it every week.
- Everyone who helped make the Children's Christmas Service a big success, including the Deacons, Yvonne Schuette, Pastor Welch, parents, all the students, and teachers.
- Loren Englemann for donating his time and labor in constructing our new Ga Ga pit at school.
- Jason Neubarth for donating the time and labor in planting the tree on the playground in honor of Mrs. Husberg.
- Brian Sellnow for donating pumpkins to the students and staff at First Lutheran School.

### Silent Auction News

We now have **gift certificates** available to purchase for any amount you wish, **to be used at the Silent Auction on Mar. 3, 2018**. Give them to your friends and family, they make great "Thank You" gifts. Stop in the school or church offices to purchase.

### Perfect Church Attendance

Congratulations to the following students who had perfect church attendance for the first trimester: Conner Donnay, Seth Mathews, Becky Dammann, Kole Christensen, Rebekah Welch, Beau Christensen, and Audrey Petersen. The 8th grade class had the best average class attendance for the 1st trimester and as a result they received a root beer float party! Praise God for healthy bodies and dedicated parents.

### Calendar Notes

January 2	School Resumes
January 5	Lyceum with The Amazing Jeffo the magician
January 6	Epiphany
January 16	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 21-27	National Lutheran School's Week
January 21	All School Choirs sing 10:30 service

### Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students who attained the honor roll for the first trimester at First Lutheran School.

"B" Honor Roll: Colin Bernstein, Grace Brickzen, Laira Busse, Owen Schauer, Dylon Terlinden, Lily Becker, Meara Busse, Alyssa Gruber,



Lauren Bernstein, Beau Christensen, Jordan Mickolich, Cassidy Rislund, Maggie Schuff, and Rebekah Welch, .  
"A" Honor Roll: Lauren Betcher, Seth Mathews, Katlyn Hanson, Audrey Pertersen, Jackie Lemke, Emma Becker, Elise Betcher, Abby Gruber, and Kyle Hagan . Praise God for the gifts He has given these students!

### **Second Grade News**

Second Grade has been working on verbs in language arts. This has included identifying verbs as action words. It also included changing verbs from past to present tense. In reading class, weekly fluency and comprehension tests assess and challenge the students to improve in reading abilities. Monthly or bi-monthly book reports challenge students to find the setting, character and plot in a book of their selection. In December, the students worked on Christmas-themed stories or books. Re-telling the book, discussing the author's reason for writing, as well as prediction of outcomes gets the students to think about the stories.

In Math, second grade has been concentrating on addition facts. We have also been working on geometry and fractions. We can write number sentences for fact families. Next we will be working on adding 2 digit numbers and adding 3 numbers such as  $3+4+2=$  . We daily tell time to the half hour and add and subtract elapsed time. We can also round temperature to the nearest 10. We have also been counting money using dimes, nickels, and pennies.

In Science, the study has mainly been on weather. Seasons and what to wear each season help the students appreciate that they live in a part of the world where God has blessed us with the 4 seasons! STEM has included a parachute for Santa, turkey rockets, and a life-sized teepee! The students also discovered that building with cards is much more difficult than dominoes or legos.

In History, the students are working on a Christmas Around the World unit. Each day begins with a book revealing the Christian symbol associated with each country. For example, Germany's symbol is the Christmas tree, which started with Martin Luther and the Paradise Tree (review of our study of Adam and Eve). Each day there is also a craft to make the symbol and meaning of Christmas more alive to the students. The true reason for Christmas is all about Jesus!

In Religion class, the students have studied David, and Solomon. Elijah is next, as well as the Christmas story. The day also includes a daily devotion.

### **Chapel Offerings**

The offerings collected during the second trimester are designated specifically to spread the Gospel in the country of Cambodia. The designated chapel offerings will go directly to LHM-Cambodia. Students can see how their mission dollars will spread the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ to the people of Cambodia. Students will witness first-hand the important role of global mission and ministry as they become agents for "Bringing Christ to the Nations - and the Nations to the Church."

### **Soup and Sandwich Supper**

The seventh and eighth grade parents and students at First Lutheran would like to thank all of the great folks who took advantage of the Soup and Sandwich meal on December 6. We had a great turnout and raised over \$900! The students are working to raise money for their Wolf Ridge trip coming up in February. We would also like to thank Thrivent for their support, as this was a "Thrivent Action Team" event.

### **School Cancellations or Early Out Information**

School closings and late starts are carried on KDUZ, KARP, and WCCO radio stations and on television stations WCCO (4), and KARE (11).

First Lutheran follows the Glencoe-Silver Lake Schools for all weather closings. Parents should use their judgment (especially when the public school is not in session) on travel safety when the public school has not been closed. During inclement weather, parents may take their child(ren) home at any time during the day by reporting to the school office by phone or Fast Direct. Parents will also be notified via Fast Direct and School Reach.

The dismissal time announced on radio and TV stations is the time the first building dismisses. If the announced time is 12:00, *First Lutheran dismisses at 11:50*. On mornings with late starts scheduled classes (band, chapel, etc.) that meet before 10:10 are *cancelled* for the day. You may dial 864-2499 (1) for cancellation or postponement of the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District. Parents should have a plan devised in advance with their children on what to do when school is dismissed early due to weather.

### **Ongoing Fundraisers**

We are collecting: Box Tops, Kwik Trip milk tops, and Country Hearth labels. Our last check was for over \$320 from the Box Tops program and we usually receive a large check from Coborn's. Our most recent Kwik Trip Tops earned us a check of \$166.35. If you are interested in counting or processing any of these items, please call the school office. Keep up the good work!

## 2017-2018 Financials: NOVEMBER (YTD)

GENERAL FUND INCOME (November):		<u>Last Year</u>
Offering Envelopes	\$ 284,776.93	\$ 270,432.02
Thrivent "Choice" Member Elections	9,926.00	1,786.00
CHP – Be Well Rewards	800.00	00.00
School "Keep It Happening" Fund	6,895.00	695.00
School Tuition	<u>68,541.62</u>	<u>76,736.28</u>
	\$ 370,939.55	\$ 349,649.30

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (November):		<u>Last Year</u>
Staff	\$ 355,083.40	\$ 357,222.06
CHP – Be Well Rewards	1,725.00	2,659.50
Buildings	30,503.44	40,043.22
Operations	12,470.11	15,513.03
Interest on Line of Credit	<u>,250.00</u>	<u>529.03</u>
	\$ 400,031.95	\$ 415,966.84

2017-2018 MISSIONS & ANGEL SEED OFFERINGS:		
	\$ 8,089.25	\$ 7,893.50

**November 30th GENERAL FUND INDEBTEDNESS:** (\$ 252,597.87)  
*Last Year's November 30th General Indebtedness:* (\$ 198,279.57)

### Special Gifts Received For December

Karen & Jake Shiveley (In Memory of her parents, Chester & Sergona Graupmann)	\$50	General Fund
Ken & Joyce Schiroo (In Memory of Gloria Schauer)	\$15	Boiler Fund
Lars Ide (In Memory of Dennis Wandrei who passed on 12/30/2016)	\$76	Boiler Fund
LWML (In Honor of our staff – Pastor Welch, Pastor Adelsen, Debi, Becky, Tori & Louie)	\$150	Keep It Happening
Anonymous Donor	\$322.80	Boiler Fund
Del & Ida Rutske (In Memory of Del's Sister, Gloria Schauer who passed away November 17 <sup>th</sup> )	\$500	Boiler Fund
Lorraine Krumm (In Memory of my sisters: Caroline Vogt & Gladys Alsleben)	\$200	Boiler Fund
Ken & Shirley Krienke (In Memory of our son, Keith's birthday September 19, 1964 and passing November 28, 2005)	\$1200 \$500	Keep It Happening Boiler Fund
Neil & Cindy Eggersgluess (In Memory of Cindy's dad, Gilbert Mathwig who died on December 4, 2017)	\$500	Boiler Fund
Jane Bauer & Family (In Memory of Kenneth Bauer)	\$500	Building Upkeep & Repair
Jerome Ehlers (In Loving Memory of his wife Kathy Ehlers)	\$500	Technology Fund
Lucille Kraemer (In Memory of Lois Schrupp)	\$20	First Lutheran School

<b>CHECKBOOK OVERVIEW as of 11-30-2017</b>		
<b>Funds in Checking Account at 1st MN Bank</b>		
- Building Upkeep & Repairs		9,753.36
- Heating Fund		29,856.42
- Memorial Fund		72,891.55
- Building Construction Fund		105,954.68
- Flames of Faith Kids Club		2,193.23
- Petty Cash		360.00
- Surveillance Systems		7,288.83
<b>SUBTOTAL of Checking Acct Funds</b>		<b>\$228,298.07</b>
<b>Current <u>General Fund</u> Balance</b>		<b>(252,597.87)</b>
<b>TOTAL - After deducting Indebtedness</b>		<b>(\$24,299.80)</b>
<b>Known Expenses in Next 4 Months</b>		
- New Carpet in-Bus. Mgr & Asst Pastor's offices		
- Labor only		(1,800.00)
- Evelyn Schrupp Estate Transfers to School per Family's Request. May make payments as able		(19,264.05)
- Removal of Chimney		(19,000.00)
- Loan Payment		(731.64)
<b>SUBTOTAL of upcoming Expenses</b>		<b>(\$40,795.69)</b>
<b>Balance-Must borrow from Line of Credit</b>		<b>(\$65,095.49)</b>
		\$21,000 is borrowed at this time
		Also, \$80,000 is borrowed through LCEF

