

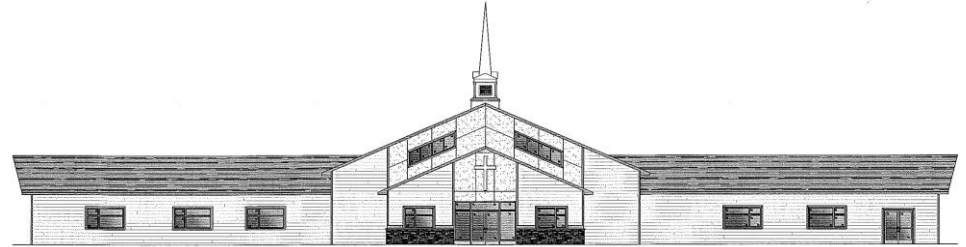
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First Lutheran Church
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First Edition

“Growing God’s Family by Serving”



First Evangelical Lutheran Church ~ LCMC
Clear Lake, Wisconsin

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

Phone: 263-2846

Pastor’s Office Hours 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday

Parsonage: 263-2848

Email: firstluth@cltcomm.net Website: www.firstluthclearlake.com

*“This will be a sign for you:
you will find a child
wrapped in bands of cloth
and lying in a manger.”*



Luke 2:12, NRSV

December 2018

Bible Marathon 2019

The youth leader at the church I attended while growing up had the habit of surprising youth with special gifts. One Christmas I was the recipient of a Student Bible. This gift turned out to be a treasure. At the time the only Bibles one could get were rather generic. This was a new kind of Bible, however. It was full of notes and helps geared to the life of your average student. The best thing about this new Bible was the reading plan.

A reading plan for the Bible encourages one to read through the Bible in a year. As you work your way you get to check off boxes to visually see your progress. I have always been a list maker so this was right up my alley. It gave me a goal to complete and I gladly took the challenge. There is something very satisfying about checking things off a list. Perhaps some of you can relate.

Before that time my Bible reading was unidirectional and scattered. I started young reading stories out of the Golden Children's Bible. Mom would put a dollar in the pages and said we could have the dollar if we read to the spot it marked. Nothing but a little bribery to encourage your kid's faith! I so loved the colorful pictures and illustrations that I was motivated even without the dollars after a while.

Following the Children's Bible I graduated to the Good News for Modern Man New Testament. And later I was gifted a red leather covered Revised Standard Version Bible. I've always been a Bible reader but I haven't always had a plan. Until the gift of my Student Bible there was no guide to get me through all of my Bible.

Enough about me. Now about you. I bet many Christians have had a difficult time trying to get into their Bibles. We are not so sure where to start or make sense of what we discover. With December comes Christmas. With Christmas come gifts. So I want to gift the congregation with another Bible Marathon. I would like to get as many of you as we can to read through your Bible with me in a year. I will be your Student Guide.

More information will be shared at December worship services but essentially you will have a year to get all the way through your Bibles. We will have a schedule to follow along with optional enrichment classes days and evenings every two weeks. As I found my Student Bible to be one of the best gifts I ever received, I hope you will find a similar blessing with our Bible Marathon.

In Christ,
Pastor Bryan



Sunday, December 16th

8:30 a.m. – Contemporary Worship with Communion
10:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship with Communion
2:00 p.m. – Sunday School Christmas Program

Monday, December 24th Christmas Eve Service

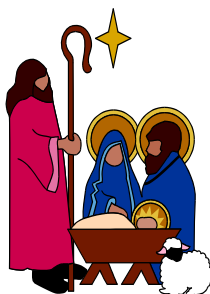
4:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 25th Christmas Day Service

10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion



ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS



The Christmas program is scheduled for **Sunday, December 16th at 2:00pm.** Every role is important, so please help your child memorize his/her speaking part so they can proclaim the Good News of Jesus! Also, attendance at the Sunday morning rehearsals at 9:40am is very important! ☺

There is an important Christmas program rehearsal for all of the children on **Saturday, December 15th from 9am-11am at church.** This will be the first time your child gets to practice with the microphone and rehearse what he/she will be doing during the program. If your child cannot attend this rehearsal or will NOT be able to be in the program this year, please contact Theresa Anderson at 715-263-2848.

After the program practice your child is invited to:



A Birthday Party for Jesus!

Come celebrate the real reason for the season!

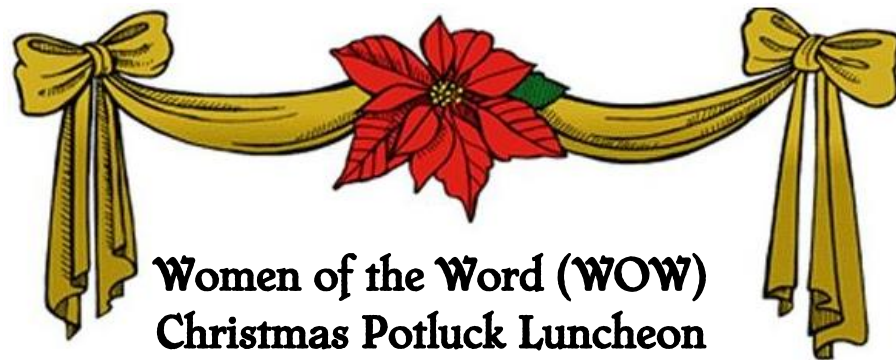


There will be fun & games and of course cake!

When: Sat., Dec. 15th from 11am to noon
(the party begins immediately after the program practice)

Where: First Lutheran Church

Questions: Call Theresa at 715-263-2848



Women of the Word (WOW) Christmas Potluck Luncheon

**Tuesday, December 11th
at 11:00 AM**

All women of the church are part of Women of the Word.
Please come and bring a dish to pass.



Christmas Concert

You are all welcome to a Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 19th at First Lutheran Church in Clear Lake beginning at 7:30 P.M. Groups that will be featured in the concert are the United Methodist Bell Choir and the Clear Lake First Lutheran choir. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the concert.

WELCOME

New Members

We welcomed seven new families into our church fellowship on Sunday, November 4th. Please join together in welcoming them into the congregation.

Arlie & Pam Anderson (Travis & Lisa)

Mary Benware

Marty & Darcy Bruner

Nicole Dixon (Caleb & Gavin)

Matt Otto & Brenda Fogarty

Dennis & Cindy Nelson

Kristi Niles (Montana, Drew, Kelli & Taryn)



ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

(SIGN-UP SHEETS IN ENTRY.)

1. Offering Counters
2. Fellowship Serving
3. Sunday School Teachers
4. Snow Shoveling Volunteers



Memorials Given to Building Fund

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Donald Wick	Jerry & Gloria Thompson
Donald Wick	Derry & Janet Monson
Esther Bingea	Derry & Janet Monson
Penny Hagar	Brad & Jo Nilssen
Jody Ferguson	Brad & Jo Nilssen
Esther Bingea	Brad & Jo Nilssen
Bob Benson	Brad & Jo Nilssen

Memorials Given to Sunday School Fund

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Emma Joy O'Connell	Derry & Janet Monson

Memorial Given for Music

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Donald Wick	Paul & Penny O'Connell

Honorarium: An honorarium was given to the Building Fund in honor of Bob & Terri Moe and Larry & Cindy Nilssen, given by Jerry & Gloria Thompson.

FINANCES

<u>General Fund Update</u>	
<i>(\$15,090 needed monthly)</i>	
Monthly Offering Total as of Nov. 18 th	\$8,685.00
<u>Mortgage Fund Update</u>	
<i>(\$2,600 needed monthly)</i>	
Monthly Offering Total as of Nov. 18 th	\$6,745.00
Thrivent Mortgage Balance Remaining	\$212,687.00

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- 2: Karen French
- 3: Jared Fritz
Braxton Campion
- 4: Brett Magnuson
Bauer McNamara
- 5: Jennifer Bylander
- 7: LaMoyne Emerson, Jr.
Trevor Gilbertson
- 8: Matthew O'Connell
Alice Sullwold
- 9: Mike Elwood
- 10: Mitchell Paulson
Mitchell Anderson
- 12: Holly Connors
- 14: Darlene Briesemeister
- 15: LaMoyne Emerson, Sr.
Jessica Christensen

- 16: Ray Smith
Loğan Reindahl
- 17: Reece Atkins
Kelly Doeden
- 18: Elijah Fox
- 19: Thomas Sloan
McKenna Moll
Ricky Anderson
Mila Utecht
- 20: Brian Wick
Alexandria Anderson
Marty Bruner
- 21: Danae Eckwall
- 22: Julie Barfknecht
Patty Sullwold
Wyatt Brihn
Haydin Cain
- 23: Ed Neitge
Madeline Young
- 26: Zach Kirk
- 27: Jennifer Strenke
- 28: Andrew Fehlen
- 30: Emma Colgrove
- 31: Hailey Gilbertson

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

ALTAR GUILD: Brad & Jo Nilssen

ACOLYTES

- 2 Bailey Alvermann
- 9 & 16 Amelia Buhr
- 23 Mitchell Anderson
- 24 (*Christmas Eve*) Eddie Johnson
- 30 Austin Moll

READERS

- 2 Linda McIntire
- 9 Gloria Hedquist
- 16 Bert Petersen
- 23 Theresa Anderson
- 30 Jane Scholz

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Liane Petersen

COUNTERS

- 2 & 9 Liane Petersen & Becky Schramski
- 16, 23 & 30 Liane Petersen & TBD

USHERS

- 2 & 9 Ben Kobernick and Dean & Jane Scholz
- 24 (*Christmas Eve*) 4pm Paul O'Connell Family
- 25 (*Christmas Day*) Richard & Teresa Selvig
- 16 23, & 30 Barb Anderson & Gary Hanson

COFFEE SERVERS

- Fellowship servers still needed for December!
- Contemporary service fellowship will be put out by the Worship Committee volunteers.
- Traditional service fellowship will need volunteers to sign up.
- Coffee and cookies are provided but will be put out and cleaned up by volunteers. Please note that some may desire to bring their own goodies in place of those usually provided.

The sign-up sheet is in the church entryway.

FOR TO US
A SON IS GIVEN

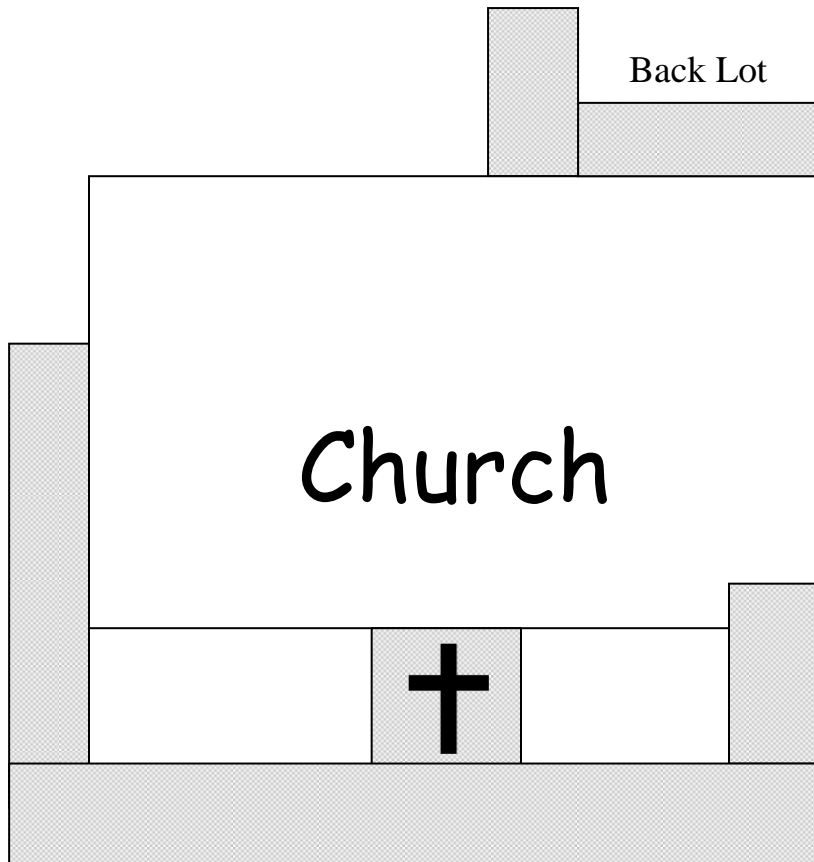
PLEASE HELP!

Snow shoveling volunteers are needed by the week throughout the winter. A sign-up sheet is posted on a clipboard in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your service.

Snow Shoveling Volunteer Map

Volunteers will clear all sidewalks and entrances as shaded below. All auto parking is cleared by a hired plow.

The church supplies shovels, ice chippers, salt or you may bring your own.



NEWS & NOTES



We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love: Levi Ramsey, Curt Measner, Nikki St. John, Paul O'Connell, Jerry Swenson, father of Connie Young and Brandon Brandt, son of Linda McIntire.

If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.

Sympathy: Our sympathy is extended to Kathy & Gary Hanson, on the death of Kathy's mother, JoAnn Rosen.

Marriage: Congratulations to Dylan Anderson and Bailey Sigsworth who were married on November 10th.

Thank you to all who helped with this year's Smorgasbord, Bake Sale, Raffle & Basket Raffle. We served 101 at lunch and 144 at dinner. God bless and thank you.

Smorgasbord Results

Smorgasbord Dinner	\$5,142.00 (gross)
Raffle	\$ 751.00
Basket Raffle	\$2,751.00
Bake Sale	\$1,216.50

Would you like to be involved in a ministry event that will proclaim the love of Christ? First Lutheran has begun the planning for a "Journey with Jesus" performance. A narrator will read Bible stories as costumed characters act out the scenes. We are in need of people with gifts in behind the scenes work (props, construction, costuming, sewing) as well as "on stage." Please consider the role you could take! Thanks to those who have already expressed interest . . . but we need MORE people on board! Mark your calendars for a meeting to be held after church on Sunday, December 2nd. If you are curious or want to learn more, contact Leona Voss at 715-263-2272.