

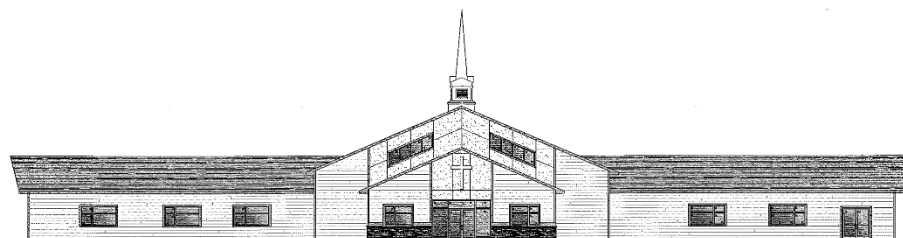
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811 South Avenue W.
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First Edition

"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 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday

Parsonage: 263-2848

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April 2025

Property Developments

Congregations do lots of things. Most important is evangelism. "Make disciples of all the nations," said Jesus. To make that happen a host of other activities need to happen. One thing is the upkeep of our property. Certainly this is only a means to an end, however. We dare not make the property we have become an idol. Instead, it is for practical reasons we are concerned.

As the Jewish people tended to their temple in Jerusalem and their local places of worship called synagogues, we do the same yet today. There are two big projects coming up that I'd like to share about. First, you will recall our church and parsonage roofs were heavily damaged by hail this last year. In addition, the siding of both structures took quite a beating as well.

Insurance has covered both needs. Indeed, we had no real choice in the matter as Bremer still holds the mortgage note for our properties. Our mortgage agreement requires any damage to be repaired as soon as reasonably possible. We were able to find a roofing contractor who was able to do the work of both structures before the snow came. To repair the chip damage to the siding will require both the church and parsonage to be painted this Spring. You will see the work beginning after Easter. Thankfully, our excellent insurance company, Church Mutual, has agreed to cover all expenses.

One other project is also in the works. At the March Council meeting, Dan Cain presented the idea to turn our unused land surrounding the church yard into a pollinator field. What is a pollinator field? This is an area of land created to support and benefit pollinators like bees, butterflies and other insects. Pollinators in turn play a vital role in the ecosystem by facilitating plant reproduction which also in turn support a rich life of birds and other herbivores. We thank Dan Cain who has been working on such conservation projects, for sharing the idea and donating his time preparing and planting the areas. All expenses will be covered by the local branch of Pheasants Forever. You should expect ground clearing in Spring and planting shortly thereafter. Once growth of meadow flowers begin you will also see birds, bees and lots of other little creatures to enjoy.

In the end, we reach in and out to make Christ known. But also know your Church Council also takes good care of the buildings to make that happen.

In Christ,

Pastor Bryan



Lent Worship Schedule



Week 4 – April 2nd

6:00 PM – Soup (Men's & Youth Group)

7:00 PM – Lenten Service

Week 5 – April 9th

6:00 PM – Soup (Serving Group 4) Jo Nilssen – Chairperson

7:00 PM – Lenten Service



Palm Sunday, April 13th

8:30 AM – Contemporary Worship

9:00 AM-Noon – Brunch served by Servant Trip Youth
(Free-Will Offering)

10:00 AM – Traditional Worship (Palm Processional)

Maundy Thursday, April 17th

7:00 PM – Holy Communion (First Communion for 5th Grade)

Good Friday, April 18th

7:00 PM – Community Good Friday Service
at United Covenant Church

Easter Sunday, April 20th

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Easter Services with Holy Communion

PRIZES FOR EACH AGE GROUP:

Easter Egg Hunt

Free/Public Welcome

Hosted by

First Lutheran Church
811 South Avenue West
Clear Lake, WI

April 12, 2025
10:00 AM

Registration begins 9:30 AM

Open to all children 5th grade and under.



First Fellowship & Fun Every Wednesday

Starting on the first Wednesday evening after Easter, April 23rd, a new opportunity will begin at First Lutheran that will coincide with our current Confirmation schedule. It is planned to be an evening of fellowship and fun for folks of all ages. The 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students already start the evening with a light meal at 5:30 PM and begin class at 6:15 PM. The 9th grade Confirmation class starting at 7:30 and concluding at 8:30 PM.

We propose to expand that fellowship and fun time offering to everyone else each Wednesday. We will be providing a free-will offering meal starting at 5:30 PM and ending at 6:00 PM. After 'breaking bread' together, it is planned that people will form activity groups of their choosing while the Confirmation classes begin. There could be a Bible study group, a book study group, a game playing group, a group interested in music, a campfire with outside activities, and the list goes on. Groups might be divided between youth and adults or combined ages; the choices are numerous. It is hoped that the groups formed will reflect the interest of those joining the group. We want you to feel free to come when you can and leave when you have to.

The first evening to kick things off we are looking at playing bingo and maybe a bonfire with s'mores, weather permitting. Watch for more details during announcements on Sunday morning and Wednesdays during Lent.



APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

ALTAR GUILD: Brad & Jo Nilssen

READERS

6 Isaac Anderson
 13 **PALM SUNDAY**
 20 **EASTER**
 27 Bert Petersen

GREETERS: Liz Johnson and Matt Steffen & Angie Peterson

COUNTERS

6 & 13 Neil Larson & Tim Wyss
 20 & 27 Neil Larson & Richard Selvig

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Neil Larson

USHERS

6 & 13 Isaac & Lily Anderson
 20 (**Easter**) 8:00 AM-Brad & Jo Nilssen
 10:00 AM-Dean & Jane Scholz
 27 Travis Anderson & Tim Wyss

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

6 Roy & Nancy McQuinn
 13 **Brunch served by Servant Trip Youth (9:00 AM-Noon)**
 20 **EASTER**
 27 Diane Paulson and Aaron & Cassie Paulson

FINANCES

Giving:

Total offering for February \$15,521.95 (\$20,919.75 needed monthly)
 February year to date offering \$30,979.25 (\$41,839.50 YTD Budget)

Bremer Mortgage Remaining Balance \$612,380.18

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1: Keith Anderson, Jr.
Carol Somsen | 17: Cassandra Aeschliman
Jordan Haley |
| 2: Kathy Eggert
Michael Kuhl | 19: Alex Colbeth |
| 4: Cory Paulson
Lucas Kaczmarski
Judi Desmond | 20: Darlene Neitge
Abby Warner |
| 5: Blake Harris
Molly Petersen
Debra McMahan | 21: Marvin Aeschliman
Selena Levendoski
Mark Peper |
| 7: Jane Ayer | 23: Christopher Witthoft
Jamie Wood |
| 8: Arlie Anderson
Walker Olson | 24: Stephanie Tolzman
Paul Colbeth |
| 10: Dale Rosen | 26: Emma Schmidt
Alexis Witthoft |
| 12: Taryn Niles | 27: Anna Buhr
Mary Jo Lien |
| 16: Wendy Campion
Shaylee Krohn | 29: Amanda Kobernick
Gene Kuhl
Leonard Murray |
| | 30: Blake Johnson
Issac Elwood
Case Elwood |

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

A. John
 B. Paul of Tarsus
 C. Joseph of Arimathea
 D. Cleopas

Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes - March 10, 2025

Present: Pastor Bryan Anderson, Aaron Buhr, Jackie Goodmanson, Neil Larson, Kevin Kamm, Bill McIntire, Anna Buhr, Laura Lieffring, Hannah Eckwall, Liane Petersen, and Dan Cain.

Meeting called to order by Neil Larson. Pastor led in prayer.

Reports: (Secretary, Budget, Pastor)- Aaron Buhr made motion to approve meeting minutes, Dan seconded, motion unanimously approved. Dan Cain made motion to approve Budget, and Pastor's Report, Hannah Eckwall seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Worship- Easter services will be 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM, the youth will be having a brunch on Palm Sunday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Wednesday after Lent will be Family Activity Night "Kick Off" April 23rd. Details are in the works, but it will entail a dinner and then some activities. This is a pilot event that will hopefully continue through the summer. The last day of Confirmation is May 7th.

Education- Patti Wyss retires as Sunday School Superintendent. Received interest from Emily Larson to take team approach in leading. Will begin planning meetings after Lent.

Finance- Discussion about a 3-year capital gain campaign to reduce the mortgage. Possibly start this next fall.

Property- Bill McIntire said a new vacuum cleaner was purchased for the church. The Property committee has been changing the light bulbs in the church to LED.

Outreach- Blood Drive March 25th, 2025. Hope Alive June 3rd or June 5th. Date to be confirmed. Easter Egg Hunt April 12th. Dale looking for donations for bikes (\$72.00). Compassion Sunday was set for May 4th but that date may have to be changed. Will know by the next Council meeting. Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event will be scheduled on March 18th. Once we have a time and date confirmed we will get that information out to the congregation. Discussions with Emily Larson about CPR certification classes. Date to be determined. Head Start will be holding a Recruiting day for families beginning in May. Date to determined next week. They will make bird feeders and provide the food/snack. Jackie will be meeting with UW Extension on Thursday about a couple programs they would like to bring to our community.

Youth- Family roller skating date March 23rd, 2025. Cindy Nelson would like to have kayak trip on July 26th with a minimum of 25 people. Would like to get all settled by early April.

Old Business:

- A. Dan Cain confirmed that Pheasants Forever will be paying for the seeding of a pollinator field. Dan also mentioned he would like to burn the field off (May-April), and spray with a weed killer and then plant in the fall. He would also like to include the youth and use this as an educational program too. Liane inquired if the field has to remain in a program. Dan explained there is no contract or program for this, and we are under no obligation to keep the field going, but stressed they would like to see it stay for a couple years at least.

New Business:

- A. Summer VBS- Council voted to keep Lacey Kamm as the leader for VBS and send letter to United Covenant Church.
- B. Pastor's vacation request was approved unanimously- Brian Wick will be the sub.
- C. A book study was mentioned and would probably start in the fall.

Adjournment

Aaron Made motion to adjourn, Bill seconded and the motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Goodmanson

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorials Given to the Building Fund

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Larry Johnson	LaMoyne & Renee Emerson
Larry Johnson	Eva Wilson
Ardella Monson	Eva Wilson

Memorials Given the Sunday School Fund

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Ardella Monson	Dennis & Cindy Nelson
Ardella Monson	LaMoyne & Renee Emerson
Ardella Monson	Larry & Cindy Nilssen

Memorial Given to the Unspecified Fund

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Larry Johnson	Larry & Mary Jo Lien
Steve Marg, Roger Shafer, Mark Tellijohn	Gloria Hedquist
Phyllis Amundson, Arella Monson	Gloria Hedquist

Memorial Given to First Lutheran Quilters

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Given by</u>
Larry Johnson	Derry & Janet Monson



OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

1. C → ↓ ↓ _____
2. H → ↑ → _____
3. V ↑ → ↓ _____
4. I ← ← ↑ _____
5. T ↑ ← ↑ _____
6. P ↑ → → ↓ _____
7. D ↓ → ↓ ↓ _____
8. T ↑ ← ↑ ← _____



Praise be to the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us

_____ into a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Answer: new birth

NEWS & NOTES



Wayne Sullwold, John Jungmann, Bob Moe, Dennis Luehman, Levi Ramsey, Jim Greger, brother-in-law of Cindy Nilssen & Terri Moe, and Laurie Newville, daughter of Keith & Mary Anderson.

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



Location: Polk County Mobile Pack
Polk County Fairgrounds – 4-H Building
800 East Louisiana Street
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Thanks for all those who have signed up. We had a great response. We have 27 people signed up and all of our slots are full. If you are still interested, we will add you on a waiting list if spots open up.

NAMEKAGON RIVER TRIP – JULY 26, 2025 FROM COUNTY HWY K TO WHISPERING PINES

A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the entry between the offices or you may call the church office 715-263-2846. **Cut off date to sign up is July 12th.**

If you need to rent a watercraft, Jack's Kayak/Canoe Rental Service in Trego may be contacted at 715-635-3300.

Following the river trip there will be food, fellowship and games furnished for you at Dennis & Cindy Nelson's cabin. Due to preparations, we would like at least a 25 person turnout.