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# First Lutheran Church PO Box 116 Clear Lake, WI 54005

# 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

... and you shall call his name

**Jesus** for he will save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21, ESV



December 2025

#### **Christmas**

Kids are really confused about Christmas these days. Many have no real knowledge that Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ.

To see what I mean, ask a young person what they think about Christmas. You may get some who understand but will also be surprised. Santa Clause will come up. So too, presents and Christmas cookies. But fewer kids know the true story.

We should consider this problem carefully and see what we can do about it. Can we use a Nativity set to teach about Jesus in our homes? Have you ever made a Christmas tradition of reading the birth account from Luke's gospel? What about having a Christmas Story movie night complete with popcorn? And especially don't forget about coming to worship and Sunday school.

Parents are the first pastors to their children. What they do will be what kids do. If you read from your Bible and pray it is likely they will grow into doing it too. Be sure to do it together. Let them see you practice the faith. The recipe for making disciples is simple – just do it. Do it and they will follow. A good place to start is with Christmas.

One final thing to consider is caroling. We will be having a time for family caroling together on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 3-5:00 PM.

We will travel around town and spread good cheer. Learning the hymns and carols of Christmas can plant the real meaning of Christmas in our hearts.

Merry Christmas, Pastor Bryan





#### ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS



The Christmas program is scheduled for Sunday, December 21st at the 10:00 AM worship service. 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 10:00 AM is very important! ©

The dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 20th from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM. This is an important rehearsal as it will be the first time your child gets to practice with the microphone. 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.



## 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. 20th from 11:00 AM to Noon

(the party begins immediately after the program practice)

Where: First Lutheran Church

Questions: Call Theresa at 715-263-2848

#### **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

#### Memorial Given to the Sunday School

In Memory of Given by Russ & Debbie Arcand

Jeff Jungmann

#### **Memorials Given to the Unspecified Fund** In Memory of Given by

Gloria Hedquist Charles Clark, Darelene Jungmann, Gene Pittman Kathy Pederson, Peter Fall, Dean Scholz Gloria Hedquist Peter Fall, Diane Struemke, Jeff Jungmann Brad & Jo Nilssen David Huggett, Nada DeVusic Brad & Jo Nilssen

#### CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN 2025

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church will be sponsoring the "Christmas" for Children" drive again this year to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmas time. "Christmas for Children" is designed to reach more needs of our local community. We are coming up on our 32<sup>nd</sup> year and are so grateful for all of the support that we have received from everyone. All gifts will be given to children ages 0-18 in the Clear Lake School District Area. Gifts are always needed for older teens, guys and girls. Personal care, nail items, cosmetics, hair products and gloves. Art supplies for all ages, canvases, sketch books, paints and drawing pencils. Guys can use small tools, personal care items, gloves, outdoor sports items for hunting and fishing and team sports. Anyone wishing to donate items to the "Christmas for Children" drive can do so by leaving them in the container labeled "Christmas for Children" in the Church Entry or at True Value Hardware and Pillar Bank beginning November 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you are in need of gifts for your children or if you know of other families in the Clear Lake School District area who are in need of Christmas gifts for their children, we would like to hear from you. Call Debi Ahrens 715-441-5477 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names are kept strictly confidential

To mail a donation please send to: Christmas For Children Box 42 Clear Lake, WI 54005

Christmas for Children United Methodist Church



#### **DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**ALTAR GUILD:** Richard Selvig

#### **READERS**

7 Chris Petersen

**14** Theresa Anderson

21 Sunday School Christmas Program

**28** Bert Petersen

**GREETERS:** Dale & Sherry Wirth

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT:** Hannah Eckwall

#### **COUNTERS**

7 & 14 Hannah Eckwall & Laura Liefring

21 & 28 Hannah Eckwall & Tim Wyss

#### **USHERS**

7 & 14 Jane Scholz

21 & 28 Barb Anderson & Aaron Johnson

24 (Christmas Eve) 4:00 PM Keith Anderson

25 (Christmas Day) 10:00 AM Richard Selvig

#### **FELLOWSHIP SERVERS**

7 Neil & Emily Larson

14 (Potluck) Julie Barfknecht, Ashley LaBlanc & Angela Harris

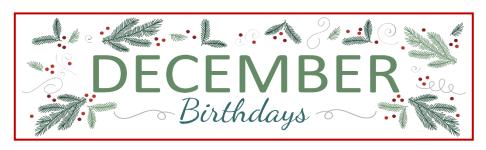
21 Lacey Kamm & Coco Morse

28 Jason & Kristin LaBeree

#### **FINANCES**

#### Giving:

Total offering for October \$49,932.05 (\$20,919.75 needed monthly) October year to date offering \$215,464.98 (\$209,197.50 YTD Budget)



1: Jim Witthoft

2: Karen French

3: Braxton Harper

4: Brett Magnuson

5: Jennifer Bylander

7: LaMoyne Emerson, Jr.
Trevor Gilbertson

8: Matt O'Connell
Alice Sullwold

9: Mike Elwood

10: Mitchell Paulson Mitchell Anderson Jaxson Peterson

14: Darlene Briesemeister Waylon Harper

15: LaMoyne Emerson, Sr.

17: Kelly Doeden

19: McKenna Moll Ricky Anderson Carol Kobernick

20: Brian Wick Marty Bruner

22: Julie Barfknecht Patty Sullwold Wyatt Brihn Haydin Cain

23: Ed Neitge

25: Joni Perzichilli

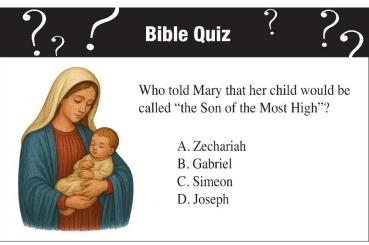
26: Zach Kirk

27: Jennifer Strenke

28: Camden Steffen Harper Goodmanson

30: Emma Colgrove

31: Hailey Gilbertson



#### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Council Meeting Minutes - November 11, 2025

<u>Present:</u> Pastor Bryan Anderson, Jackie Goodmanson, Neil Larson, Kevin Kamm, Liane Petersen, Becky Schramski, Anna Buhr, Laura Leiffring, Bill McIntire and Dan Cain. Special guest-Tim and Patti Wyss.

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

Group Discussion on Worship Services: Brian Wick submitted a letter to be read to the Council about his take on keeping the two services. It provides options for members and community. Jackie made mention of why and how the first service, called the contemporary service was created. Tim Wyss told the Council that the combining of the two services for "A Summer of Unity" was just to be temporary. He strongly felt going to one service would be a big mistake for the church. Patti also expressed concern that going to one blended service would do more harm than good when it came to the members. It was decided that the Council does not want to eliminate the first service. The Council will put a survey together for the congregation. The survey will be brought to the next Council meeting for approval and more discussion if need. Then the survey will be passed out to members of the congregation possibly during annual meeting.

**Reports:** (Secretary, Budget, Pastor)- All reports approved as presented.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Worship-** Christmas Services approved for Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM, Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**Education**- Neil read a letter from Emily on Sunday school activities, there are 55 children registered and the Christmas program practices will start November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Christmas Program will be on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Finance**- Committee will be having a meeting November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**Property**- Bill is still waiting to hear from Jason on cost of upgrading parking lot lights to LED. Confirmation photos were hung in the Sunday school hallway.

Outreach- Nothing to report.

Youth- Neil will get dates for caroling to office.

Old Business: Waiting for Cedar Corporation Contract for the Canopy design with or without the bell. Pastor will now send letter as email have not been returned.

Adjournment with the Lord's prayer.

Submitted by Jackie Goodmanson

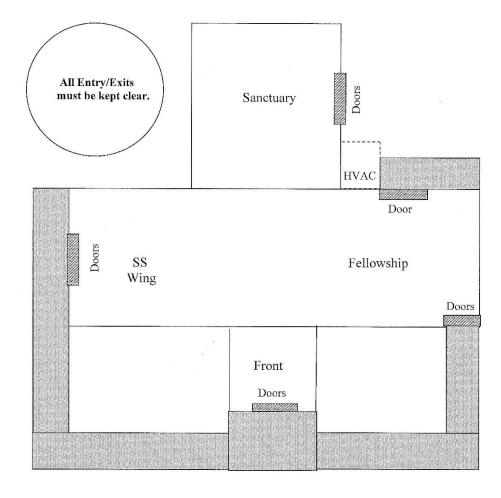
#### **PLEASE HELP!**

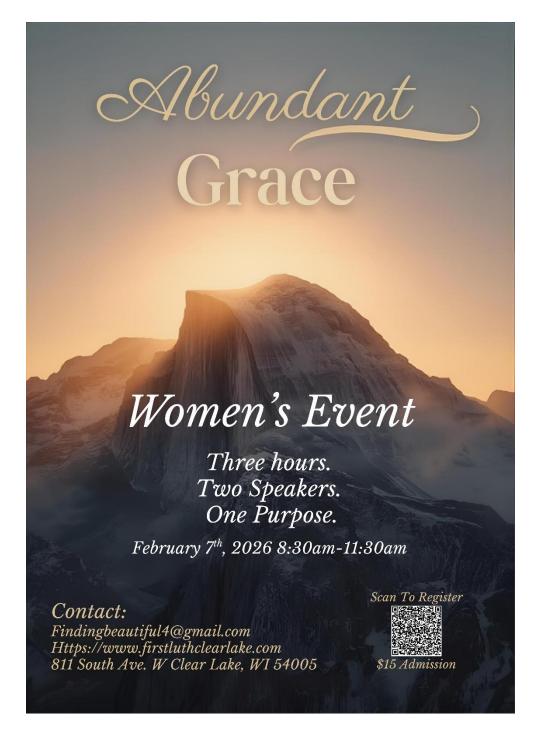
Snow shoveling volunteers are needed by the week throughout the winter. A sign-up sheet is posted on a clipboard at the back of worship. Thank you for your service.

### **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**



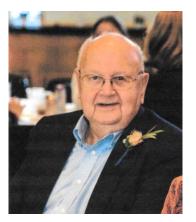
We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love: Judi Desmond and Carole Larson. *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.* 

**Our Sympathy** is extended to Brenda Campion on the death of her brother, Jeff Jungmann.

**BAPTISM:** Harper Ann Goodmanson, daughter of Ryan & Victoria Goodmanson.

Thank you to <u>all</u> who helped with this year's Fall Dinner.

Free-will Offering \$4,437.00 General Raffle \$1,375.00 Basket Raffle \$3,309.00



Please joing us in celebrating LaMoyne Emerson's 90th Birthday!

Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 3:00 PM

First Lutheran Church, Clear Lake, WI

Refreshments, snacks, coffee and sweets will be served.

No gifts please.