

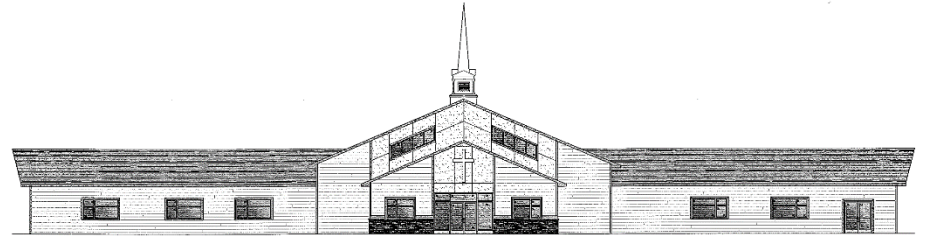
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First Lutheran Church
811 South Avenue W.
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First Edition

“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: 715-263-2846

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

Parsonage: 715-263-2848

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



April 2026

Resurrection Truth

We confess it in the Apostle's Creed: "I believe...in the resurrection of the body." We sign in song, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone". We read in scriptures, "And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is a delusion, and you are still lost in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17).

The Resurrection is the heart of Christianity. It's why we trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord. Take away the Resurrection and you take away our hope. And that is precisely why this belief comes under such attack by the enemies of the faith. Our culture is growing increasingly secular and antagonistic to Christianity.

We celebrate the Resurrection story on Easter. This year Easter is Sunday, April 5th. Already our critics are at work to undermine the faith at whatever opportunity they can. Every year, a few months before Easter it predictably starts. You will see a program advertised as finding out the latest explosive new evidence about what really happened to Jesus. News magazines will publish the obligatory sensationalist article complete with so-called authorities to back everything up. And these days the chat rooms, online influencers, and podcasts are ablaze with conversations.

What is your average Christian to make of all the activity. A few comments are in order as well as a final suggestion. First, no one ever attacks a dead letter. That is evidence itself that something is true when so many want to silence the story. Second, the Resurrection account has been attacked from the beginning. No Christian teaching has received a more thorough investigation from all sides and still stands solidly. Many a skeptic has been converted after an honest review of the historical evidence.

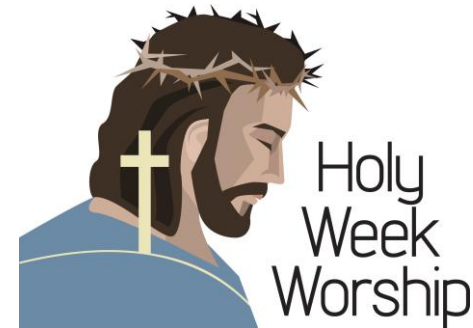
Third, the proof is in the pudding as they say. That is, you will best find out the truth of the Resurrection by living it. Live in the light of the hope it brings. Put it to the test for yourself and see if it will sustain you.

Finally, a suggestion. The earliest Christians were apologists – that is defenders of the faith. They took seriously, "Always be prepared to give

an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have" (1 Peter 3:15). They shared reasons a plenty and were willing to go to their deaths with confidence. It's always easier to believe in someone willing to let their throat be cut for the truth they believe.

You should make yourself aware of the rock-solid historical evidence behind the Resurrection belief. We have several good books in our church library that document the evidence. A smaller such resource will be available at Easter services: *Is Easter Unbelievable?* By Rebecca McLaughlin. In less than 60 pages she gives a compact summary. It is available free of charge online at: <https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/is-easter-free-pdf/>

Happy Easter,
Pastor Bryan



Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

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

Good Friday, April 3rd

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

Easter Sunday, April 5th

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 4, 2026
10:00 AM

Registration begins 9:45 AM

Open to all children 5th grade and under.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Council Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2026

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

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

Reports: (Secretary, Budget, Pastor) Secretary and Pastor reports approved as presented. Finance report will be presented at the next council meeting.

Committee Reports

Worship- Discussion about attending some Christian Concerts. Youth Committee will consider.

Finance- Approval procedure created for use of Memorial Fund and any reimbursements. All requests will be submitted, and President will approve or deny requests. Jennifer Munson will be added to the Memorial fund account as an approved signer.

Property- Bill McIntire would like to have trees planted on the property. Laura Lieffring made a motion for Bill to purchase trees for the property not to exceed \$2,500. Bill seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Outreach- Aaron made a motion to create a line item in the Memorial Fund called "Crisis Fund" for local people in need. Requests will be approved by the Council and dispensed accordingly. The motion was also to include moving \$5,000 from the Unspecified category for seed money. Laura Lieffring seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Youth- Council discussed allowing the youth to have more options as to which Bible Camp they could attend and shall get a scholarship. Council will have to discuss with women's group.

Decorating Committee- Neil made a motion to keep the TV on the current wall in the fellowship hall and to have the old screen and projector removed as the technology is now obsolete. Decorating committee will decide where to place Paul Ohman's Painting. Bill seconded the motion and passed.

New Business:

- Council to review Job Description of paid employees and discuss next meeting. Neil will meet with Terri to discuss using Google docs to help with committees' communication.
- Replace TV in Sanctuary- Neil will get info. on whether it is easier to replace two at the same time. A member of the church offered to purchase a new TV so our cost may only be one if two TVs are purchased.
- Hierarchy of Projects and Possible meeting times. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Projects to consider- signage, shed, canopy, bell tower, youth pastor, Sunday school space, and the narthex.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Jackie Goodmanson

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



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

APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

ALTAR GUILD: Brad & Jo Nilssen

READERS

- 5 Easter
- 12 Lacey Kamm
- 19 Patti Wyss
- 26 Chris Petersen

GREETERS: Liz Johnson and Matt & Angie Steffen

COUNTERS

- 5 & 12 Jackie Goodmanson & Richard Selvig
- 19 & 26 Jackie Goodmanson & TBD

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jackie Goodmanson


USHERS

- 5 (Easter) 8:00 AM-Brad & Jo Nilssen
10:00 AM-Dan & Haydin Cain
- 12 & 19 Matt & Angie Steffen
- 26 Travis Anderson & Tim Wyss

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

- 5 Easter
- 12 LeRoy & Liz Johnson
- 19 Mike & Becky Schramski
- 26 Diane Paulson and Aaron & Cassie Paulson

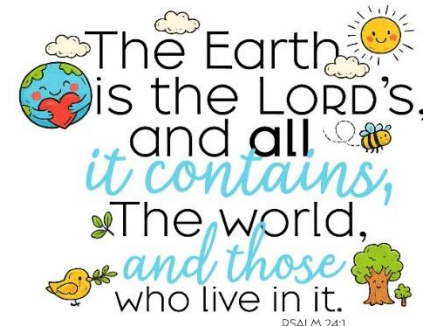
?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?



According to Matthew's account, something remarkable happened to the earth on the day Jesus was crucified and again on the morning when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary visited the tomb. What occurred on both days?

- A. There was a flood on both days.
- B. There was an earthquake on both days.
- C. There was a huge fire on each day.
- D. There was complete darkness on both days.

Answer: B (Matthew 27:51; Matthew 28:2)



PSALM 24:1

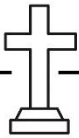
PUZZLE



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

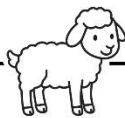
Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV



- 1. Jesus
- 2. weary
- 3. endured
- 4. opposition
- 5. cross
- 6. endured
- 7. scorning
- 8. shame



- 1. Jesus
- 2. lose
- 3. pioneer
- 4. sinners
- 5. perfecter
- 6. him
- 7. faith
- 8. hand



- 1. eyes
- 2. us
- 3. joy
- 4. heart
- 5. right
- 6. grow
- 7. God
- 8. throne

"... fixing our _____ on _____, the _____ and _____ of _____ . For the _____ set before _____ he _____ the _____, _____ its _____, and sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____ . Consider _____ who _____ such _____ from _____, so that you will not _____ and _____."

Hebrews 12:2-3 NIV

Answer: "... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

NEWS & NOTES



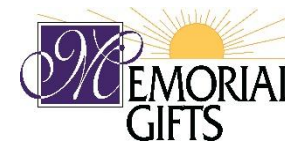
Mark Gilbertson, Brian Wick, Tiffany Wagner, Carrie Buhr, Levi Ramsey, and Dave & Sue Anderson, brother & sister-in-law of Mary Jo Lien. *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Jackie Goodmanson on the death of her mother-in-law, Barbara Goodmanson.

BAPTISM: Hadley Jean Flandrick, daughter of Gabe & Emma Flandrick.

New Member Orientation

An informational orientation will be held after the 10:00 AM worship service Sunday, April 19th. Those interested should notify the church office (263-2846) so adequate supplies can be on hand. New members will be officially received into the congregation on Sunday, April 26th. Please speak to Pastor Bryan if you should have any questions.



Memorials Given for Youth/Mission Trip

In Memory of

Richard Lambert, Kathy Fox,
Marvin Gorres, Ted Olson

Given by

Gene & Sharon Kuhl
Gene & Sharon Kuhl

FINANCES

Giving:

Total offering for February \$17,219.25 (\$21,874.25 needed monthly)