**First EDITION**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community.”

Many gifts….

**Lord’s Supper**

The chalice symbolizes the cup of sorrows of our

Savior and the sacrament of the altar.

The grapes symbolize the wine and the blood of Christ.

The wheat symbolizes the bread and the body of Christ.



In Memory of:

Mr. George Fara

**…. Many Thanks**

**The Noisy Offering for FEBRUARY goes for**

**Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.**

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**Prayer Concerns and Sympathy** ~Craig Moline (son of Sharol Huggett), John Seegebarth, David Shober, Larry Edin, Jerry Shober, Bradley Fairbanks, Lana Jensen, and MarshaSkoog (friend of Patty Sweeny).

**For firefighters, EMT’s, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military.**

**For world peace**. **For our companion synods.**

**For our missionaries:** Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke.



We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Dorothy Jolstad Svendsen. May they know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and give them peace.

 

**Women’s ongoing mission project-**

We ask members to join us and bring **SHAMPOO** during the month of **February** for the homeless.

Please put them in the basket marked “Homeless Packets” in the cabinet in the Narthex.



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*Giving statements are available to be picked up on the table in Narthex, also just a note to let you know, that offering envelopes for giving are always out on the bulletin table. If you need a bigger amount, please contact Kathy Thompson.*

*Kathy Thompson - Financial Secretary*





Please Join us for the Community Meal

5-6 pm on Tuesday, February 6th.

(Chicken Wild Rice Soup, serving: The Johnson’s)



**Out to Lunch Bunch February 15th is at the Bear Creek Tavern, Cloverdale.**

**Don’t forget to direct Thrivent**

 **Choice Dollars**

Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funds can help support organizations you care about.

Don’t let your designated Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2024, to direct any remaining 2023 Choice Dollars.

Help support First Lutheran.

Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836



The Faith Community Nurse will be doing blood pressures for anyone who would like one, Sunday, February 18th during Coffee Fellowship.



**The March Newsletter Deadline needs to be in by 9 am on Monday, February 19th.**



**ALL-CHURCH BIRTHDAY PARTY**

 **BY EVANGELISM/STEWARSHIP BOARD**

**SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

No, it’s not First Lutheran’s birthday It’s a celebration of all our birthdays!

There will be food, fellowship and fun, Cake and candles and Happy Birthday wishes to all.

Everyone is invited, from infants to centenarians.

**It’s not a potluck,** *but we need a few volunteers…*

*More about that later!*

Sunday, February 25 following worship.



Thank You to everyone who agreed to be on a church board, committee, or church council. We could not function without your help. Remember you take your position in February and will attend the next meeting in February.

***SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY***

***Remember if you cannot serve, to please find your***

 ***own substitute. Thank You.***

 ***Acolytes***

*Sunday, February 4-Jaeden Blesener*

 *-*

 *Sunday, February 11-Amanda Olson*

 *-*

 *Sunday, February 18- Brooklyn Storlie*

* *Ava Blowers*

 *Sunday, February 25-Sophia Warman*

 *- Bella Carlson*

***Wednesday Confirmation Parent Assist***

 *Wednesday, February 7- Jodi Storlie*

 *-*

*Wednesday, February 14-****NO CONFIRMATION-***

***ATTEND ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE***

*Wednesday, February 21-*

 *-*

*Wednesday, February 28- Nicole Anderson*

*

***Lectors***

*Sunday, February 4-Carole Lahti*

*Sunday, February 11- Donna Wachsmuth*

*Sunday, February 18-Paul Olson*

*Sunday, February 25- Christie Dunkley*

 ***Kitchen Cleaning*-** Joyce Seegebarth

***Ushers*-***Richard Anderson and Jerry Trott*

***Altar-*** *N/A*

*February Birthday's*

**2/1 Diane Ausmus**

**Robert Kinblom** 

 **2** **/3 Shawn Denton**

 **Earl Koste**

 **Linda Trott**

**2/6** **Elaine Jensen**

**2/8** **Diane Erickson****Judy Peterson**

**2** **/11 Eleanor Nelson** 

**2****/15 Elsie Dieter** 

**2** **/16 Brooklyn Storlie**

 **2/17 Hollie Lindner**

 **Shana Stiel**

**2** **/18 Charles Mans**

**2****/20 Richard Anderson**

 **Candi Nelson**

**2/21 Rebecca Wiczek**

**2/22 Allyce Mulder Madalynn VanGorden**

**2/23 John Shober Jr.**

**2/26 Lori Klar**

**2** **/27 Paige Denton**

✝ **Octogenarians**

**Please let us know if there are any corrections or additions.**

**Thank You!**



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**Women’s Bible Study’s** **ongoing mission project**.

We ask members to join us and bring a **granola bars** during the month of **May** for homeless packets. Please put them in the basket marked “Homeless Packets” in the cabinet in Narthex.

Thank You.



 **6:30 pm**

**Worship-**

**Ash Wednesday,**

 **February 14th**

**Holden Evening Prayer Service**

**Wednesdays- February 21st**

**and February 28th**

|  |
| --- |
|  **February 2024**   \*\*Subject to Change\*\* **Worship Service is available Live on Facebbok, You Tube, and Website.****Wednesday Night Youth Schedule (see below)** |
| **SUN**  | **MON** | **TUES** | **WED** | **THURS** | **FRI** | **SAT** |
| **Wednesday Night Youth Schedule** 4:30 pm FiA Choir (k-6).5-6:30 pm FiA**Feb. 14-No FiA, Confirmation or Youth Group, Attend Ash Wed. Service**5:30 -6 pm Confirmation Dinner6 pm Large Group Confirmation 6:30 pm Worship/HC7 pm Small Group Confirmation7:30 pm Youth Group | **1** 7 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study | 2 | 38 pm AA mtg. |
| 48:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship | 5  | 69:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 76:30 pm Worship | 8 7 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study9:30 am Quilting | 9 | 108 pm AA mtg. |
| 118:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship/ BellsValentine’s Dinner after Worship until 12:30 | 12 4 pm Women’s Ruth Bible Study5:30 pm All Boards | 139:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 149 am Library6:30 pm AshWed. Worship | 15 7 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex StudyMeet @ 11:15 Out to Lunch Bunch-Bear Creek Tavern, Cloverdale | 16 | 17 8 pm AA mtg. |
| 18 8:30 pm Coffee Fellowship with BP √;9:30 am First Word WorshipChurch Council | 19 **March****Newsletter****Deadline** | 209:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 216:30 pm Lenten HoldenEvening Prayer WorshipMission Trip mtg. after Worship for youth & adults | 227 am Men’s CoffeeFellowship7:30 am Men’s Tex Study | 23 | 248 pm AA mtg. |
| 258:30 pm Coffee Fellowship9:30 am Worship/HC\*All Church Birthday Party\*after Worship byEvangelismStewardship Board | 26 | 279:30 am Women’s Bible Study | 286:30 pm Lenten Holden Evening Prayer Worship |  |  |  |

***2024 January***

**Board members serve a 2yr.-term and may not serve more than 2 consecutive terms, unless specified.**

**The board will have 6 members and a liaison from the Council.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Education, Youth & Family | Auditing Committee |
| ++Liaison: | 3 members, 3 yr. term with no more than 2 memberselected each yr. by Council. |
|  Staci Klein 1st yr. 2nd term |
|  Amy Johnson 1st yr. 2nd term |  Dennis Volden |
|  Kenna Johnson 1st yr. 2nd term |  Deb Vork |
|  Tim Johnson 1st yr. 2nd term |  Lois Kunze |
|  Cori Olson *1st yr. 2nd term* |  |
|  Delayna Groen 1st yr. 2nd term | Endowment Committee |
|  | Pastor and Chairperson are on Committee. |
| Evangelism/Stewardship | Chairperson: |
| ++ Liaison: |  Dennis Volden |
|  Donna Wachsmuth 1st yr. 2nd term |  Kon Bergum |
|  Carole Lahti 2nd yr. of 1st term |  Gary Hoxmeier |
|  Mary Jabe 1st yr. 2nd term |  |
|  Sue Skalicky 1st yr. of 1st term | Memorial Committee |
|  Lois Kunze 2nd yr. 2nd term | Appointed by the Church Council |
|  Dana Kerfeld 1st yr. of 1st term | ++Liaison: |
|  Lynnea Mayer 1st yr. of 1st term |  Sharol Huggett |
|  Ashley Thompson 1st yr. of 1st term |  Ellie Nelson |
|  Kathryn Souer 1st yr. of 1st term |  Colleen Volden |
|  |  |
| Property | Nominating Committee |
| ++Liaison: | 3 members 1 yr. term with no more than 2 members elected each yr. |
|  Tom Wachsmuth 2nd yr. of 1st term |  Carole Lahti |
|  Paul Shober 1st yr. 2nd term |  Donna Martin |
|  Christopher Steinke 1st yr. 2nd term |  Deb Volk |
|  Jamie Johnson 2nd yr. of 1st term |  Dwaine Palmer |
|  Owen Johnson 2nd yr. of 1st term |  |
|  Scott Jensen 1st yr. of 1st term | Personnel Committee |
|  Dwaine Palmer 1st yr. of 1st term | Appointed by the Church Council for 1 year. 3 people |
|  | ++Liaison: |
| Worship & Music |  |
| ++Liaison: |  |
|  Pat Anderson 1st yr. of 1st term | Voting Members of Synod Assembly |
|  Diane Ausmus 1st yr. of 1st term | Couple or 2 individuals for a 1-year term. |
|  Joanne Richards 1st yr. of 1st term |  Kevin and Nancy Stephenson |
|  Deanna Gorsegner 1st yr. of 1st term |  |
|  Elaine Jensen 1st yr. of 1st term |  |
|  | Church Council Members |
| Cemetery Board | \* Council President |
| ++Liaison: | \*Rick Dunkley, Kevin Stephenson, Robin Hendrix, |
|  Joe Cappuccino | Nancy Stephenson, Carole Lahti, Kathryn Souer |
|  Larry Edin (sexton) | Donna Wachsmuth, Tom Wachsmuth, Paul Shober |
|  Elliott Golly |  |
|  Paul Shober | Mighty Fortress |
|  Betty Reiter | 2 members and Pastor |
|  |  Pastor  |
| Alice Bailey Scholarship |  Robin Hendrix |
|  Colleen Volden |  |
|  Ellie Nelson  |  |

**Question? Concerns? Requests?**

**This is the list of new members for the boards, council, and committees for 2024. They are willing to answer any questions you may have.**

**The Church Council meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month after Worship.**

**All Boards meets the 2nd Monday of the month, unless specified by Board.**

**Call the Council president if you would like to be placed on the Council agenda.**

**The meetings are ope for anyone to attend-you are welcome.**

First Lutheran Church Prayer Chain 2024

*1 Thess. 5:16 “Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all*

*circumstances., for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

***\*\*PLEASE NOTE THERE MAY BE A FEW CHANGES\*\****

***The purpose of a prayer chain is when individuals share a link first praying for someone that has requested prayers and then passing that prayer request on to the next person on the chain.***

If you or someone you know has a prayer request, please let the church office or Pastor know so they can put it on the 1st Lutheran prayer chain. (320-384-6393) and the Church will contact the call leaders of the individual prayer chains.

**ELEANOR NELSON** 320-384-6530 **PAT B. ANDERSON** 320-384-6922

Tony/Shana Stiel 320-384-7986 Elaine Jensen 320-761-5272

Diane Erickson 320-233-0692 Tom/Donna D307-754-8348

Vonnie Vayder 651-245-2664 Wachsmuth T307-202-3586

Kon Bergum 320-279-2365

 **SHAROL HUGGETT** 612-508-2726

 Peggy Smith 320-384-6745

**JOYCE SEEGEBARTH** 320-384-0371 Judy Koste 612-390-6988

Lana Jensen 320-279-3444

Mary Jabe 320-384-6426

Julia Smith 651-894-3603 **GRACIE EDIN** 320-384-6478

 Mindy Johnson 320-469-3774

**COLLEEN VOLDEN** 320-384-6576 Patty Sweeny 320-232-0023

Kay Kadous 320-679-2272 Troy/Amy Tvedt 320-384-7967

Kelly Johnson 612-390-1275 Betty Reiter 320-279-1183

Gail Wells 320-384-6203 Robin Hendrix 320-279-0961

Carole Lahti 715-553-3312 Cheryl Malm 651-328-3005

Elliot/Dawn Golly D612-390-0999 Kathy Haavisto

 E320-630-6827

**KATHRYN SOUER** 320-438-0418

Judy Peterson 320-629-6969

Christie/Rick Dunkley C-320-761-1065

 R-320-761-1056

Shawn O’Donovan- 320-279-1630

 Houston

Kathy/Ashley Thompson 651-775-3743

\*\*THANK YOU for serving on the prayer chain. As Christians we all believe in the power of prayer and what it can do. What a blessing knowing that our Lord & Savior is only a prayer away.\*\*

Youth and Family News!

All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children.

 ***Isaiah 54:13***

**Faith in Action-** Reminder that Faith in Action will be every Wednesday night from 5–6:30.

**YOUTH GROUP** will be from 7:30 – 8:30 for 7th -12th graders and will follow the same schedule as FiA.

**Valentines’ Dinner fundraiser** – Please join us for a great meal and celebrate while supporting our youth. See flyer for all details

**Kids Choir** - Youth choir on Wednesday nights at 4:30 before FiA – Youth choir will sing during Sunday and Wednesday worship once a month – open to k -6th graders.

**Mission trip meeting – February 21st after worship**

Mission trip bible study and meeting for all youth and adults going on the trip. Snacks, bible study lesson and games. There will be monthly meetings from now until July.

**Confirmation and FiA-** Ice Skating and sledding at the pit - Wednesday January 31st.

5-6:30. Bring your warm clothes, skates and or sleds. We will start with dinner then walk to the pit for a night of outdoor winter fun followed by hot chocolate and cookies.

**Monthly fellowship meal-** Our monthly fellowship meal will start back up this month and the youth will host the first meal – we will have egg bakes and brunch after worship on Jan 28th -**THIS IS NOT A POTLUCK**– please join for a time of community, meal. and fellowship.

**Wild Mountain youth and family trip** - flyers and sign up on youth bulletin board.

**“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say, how you live, how you love and what you believe” Timothy 4: 12**



Valentines Dinner



Sunday, February 11th

After worship until 12:30

Free Will Offering

Alfredo, Spaghetti, Salad, and Dessert

Roses and gifts also available

Please Support Youth Mission Trip

Sign-up table in Narthex.

**Council Minutes December 17th, 2023**

**Those present:** Rick Bicking, Rick Dunkley, Nancy Stephenson, Kevin Stephenson, Robin Hendrix, Tom Wachsmuth, Donna Wachsmuth, Dwaine Palmer, Paul Shober, Amy Tvedt, Pastor Steve, Mindy Johnson.

**Call to Order:** 10:30 AM. We were led in devotion by Rick. D.

**Secretary Minutes:** motion to accept the minutes made by Tom, second by Dwaine, motion carried.

**Financial Secretary’s Report:** motion to accept made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Rick B. stated that the general fund is negative $38,185.39. We will work on balancing our accounts at the annual budget meeting on Jan. 3, 2024.

**Board Reports:** Motion to accept made by Robin, second by Nancy, motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Building Fund:** the building fund is negative $7096.63. We will balance this account with money from the Edwin fund. Motion made by Robin, second by Amy, motion carried.

**Counting Procedure Update:** one counter will come in on Wednesday or Thursday to count with Kathy.

**Handicap Door Update:** St. Germaine requires ½ (of $4225) down as a deposit before they will order the door, and ordering takes 6 weeks. Rick B. will write them a check, and Tom will coordinate Live Wire electrical with St. Germaine when the door is scheduled to arrive. The quote Kevin received from Live Wire is $1400.

**Garbage Disposal:** It looks like this is an electrical issue, so we will have Live Wire fix this when they come out to do the electrical for the handicap door.

**Tim Davis’ Property, the tree and the fencing:** Scott took a look at the tree and advised the neighbor that they may want to move their trailer before the tree is removed. There is no further news for now.

**Telephones Update:** Six phones are needed, all with Hold and Transfer features. Kevin will look into different models.

**Update on Lawn Service:** Tom will cancel our current service, and Rick D. will contact our insurance provider about any liability issues involved in hiring a teen or adult.

**Snow Plowing Service Update:** Jordan Volden will now snowplow for us.

**Christmas Tree Thank You:** we will send a thank you card to Frye’s Tree Farm for donating our tree. We will all sign the card at the next meeting.

**Council Membership Concerns:** some members of the congregation are concerned about having multiple members of the same family on Council. We will announce to the congregation that anyone that is interested in holding a Council position can have their name included in the vote at January’s Annual Meeting.

**Pastoral Update:** the call committee interviewed a candidate that seems quite interested in the position. Rick D. called Susan at the Synod about helping us with Pulpit Supply now that Interim Pastor Steve will be leaving to become the Interim Pastor at Mora.

**Confirmation:** Pastor Steve will pass on his notes and Rick D. will take over and follow the same program that the Pastor has started.

**NEW BUSINES:**

**Constitution Adjustments:** In our Constitution we will now move the Annual meeting to the Bylaws section, and quorum for the annual meeting will be changed to 30, however, the Council President can still retain the power to declare quorum. Motion made by Tom, second by Kevin, motion carried. The requirement of a youth representative on Council will be omitted. The cemetery Committee will be moved to Bylaws. At the Annual meeting, amendments may now be proposed by at least 10 voting members. After the Synod approves of these changes, we will make the Constitution and Bylaws available for the congregation to see.

**Staff Job Descriptions:** to be consistent, the supervisor for all staff will now be the Pastor. There was mention of having Donna create the slide deck for services. Kevin feels that the service needs to become a coordinated effort between the service notes, the music, and where people will be standing at each point in the service, etc. For Mindy’s job description, we need to specify youth age range and write out what she really does. Rick D. and Mindy will meet to clarify her job description. For our custodian, we need to add the extra pay for funerals, etc., to the job description. Pastor also suggested that the hours allowed and compensation be added to all of the job descriptions. Motion to accept the changes made by Tom, second by Paul, motion carried.

**Details on Coverage during continuing interim period:** we have not received anything from the Synod. Pastor Steve will contact the Synod and also send us a pdf list of Pulpit Supply Pastors. We will check with Pastor John in Pine City about covering any hospitalizations or funerals that may come up.

**Garage door opener:** we discussed possible options for getting a garage door opener installed. Kevin will obtain an estimate from Live Wire to run electricity to the garage.

**Budget Meeting:** we will have a meeting to create our 2024 budget on January 3, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

**Parish Nurse Report:** Robin said she has still been busy setting up rides for a member’s son to go to the cities for cancer treatments. She has also given rides to the food shelf and has been working on the next Community Dinner.

**Director of Youth and Family Ministries Report:** the Christmas Program went well and we had a large turnout. FIA and youth group have been going well, and the youth have performed a lot of service projects in December. Please see her report.

**Interim’s Report:** Pastor has been laying out what he’s leaving for whoever becomes our next Pastor. Pastor feels that our church is a place that the new Pastor will be lucky to come to. Please see his report. We discussed that we will need to purchase a computer for the next Pastor. Kevin will delete Pastor Steve from the email list.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25.

**These notes respectfully submitted by Nancy Stephenson.**

**Office Hours:**

Mindy Johnson, Director of Youth, Family and Education-call 320-384-6393

firstlcyouthdirector@scicable.com

Donna Martin, Church Secretary:

Tuesday-Thursday 9-3

firstlcsecretary@scicable.com **NOTE CHANGE!**

Kathy Thompson, Financial Secretary: Wednesday & Thursday 9-3

fincancialsecretary@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com or firstlcfinancialsecretary@scicable.com

Rick Bicking, Treasurer: Tues. or call 320-384-6393

treasurer@flchinckley.onmicrosoft.com or firstlctreasurer@scicable.com



We look forward to the resurrection on Easter Sunday. You are invited to make contribution towards the Easter Garden to grace our Sanctuary on Easter morning. We are asking that the majority of our plants be spring blooming plants rather than Easter lilies. We will be ordering from Northern Bloom and Gifts at a cost of $14 for blooming plants and $12 for Easter Lily. However, if you have a lily or spring plant that you would like to share, please feel free to do so and mark your plant with your name. Please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate, church office or safe (with your donation and mark it “Easter Garden-Altar Guild) so we can include your information with the

**Easter Garden.** Thank you.

**Please bring your plant to the church, no sooner than Thursday, March 28th by 9 am.**

It’s a good idea to mark your plant with your name so you are sure to get your same plant home with you.

**Please return this form on Sunday, February 25th for the information to be in the announcements and place order.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_**I wish to make a donation of $14 for a spring blooming plant.

 \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to make a donation of $12 for an Easter lily.

 \_\_\_\_\_I will bring my own spring plant or lily.

 In loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 In loving honor of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 From: (Your name**)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 First Lutheran Church Non-Profit Organization

 301 Lawler Avenue South U. S. Postage

 P.O. Box 459 PAID

 Hinckley, MN 55037 Hinckley, MN 55037

 Permit No. 37

 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED