

Volume 48 No. 4

April 2019

Watford City Area Parish-ELCA

P.O. Box 441

Watford City, N.Dak. 58854

the Clarion

PERMIT 48
NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
Watford City, ND 58854

Return Service Requested

Pastor Rob Favorite

rfave@ruggedwest.com

Phone: 842-4589

Pastor Mark Honstein

pastorhonstein@gmail.com

Phone: 842-4074

Alyssa Quade

pastor.alyssaquade@gmail.com

Phone: 605-467-0374

Listen to Sunday Worship Service

KTGO 1090 am @ 11:00 AM

OR over the internet

www.BakkenBeacon.com

click on "listen live" from KTGO

Our website:

www.wclutheranparish.com

Office Phone: **444-3244**

Church Phone: 842-3349

E-mail: ardycealveshere@gmail.com



Sunday Worship Times

9:00 AM - First (Traditional Service)

11:00 AM - First (Contemporary Service)

11:00 - AM Banks/Garden



First Lutheran Church WELCA PROJECTS

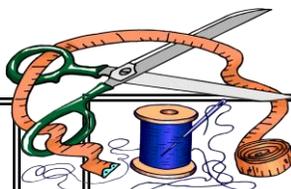
In May the First Lutheran WELCA will send quilts and soap to Lutheran World Relief.

There will be a basket in the narthex to put new bars of any brand soap, in their original wrapping. Bath-size bars are highly preferred.

Soap keeps hands clean, germs at bay and helps people present themselves with dignity. We will send the collection of the new bars of soap to Lutheran World Relief and they will deliver them to where the need is.

This fall in October, the concentration will be on quilts and school kits (as there will be good sales on school supplies in August/September).

Take a moment and check out the poster in the FLC Narthex showing what countries the 2018 Lutheran World Relief donations have been delivered to.



First Lutheran Quilting Projects

The First Lutheran Quilters make quilts to be sent through Lutheran World Relief to places around the world. It offers a bit of comfort to those that may not have much.

We also make baby quilts that are presented to our new members through their baptism. We honor our high school graduates with a quilt. We also donate quilts to people in the area that maybe comforted by one.

If you would like to help in our mission, we have many ways that you may do so. We meet year-round at 1:00 PM on Mondays at the church where we assemble the quilts, cut the squares and sew the binding. You do not need any sewing ability to help. Can you tie a knot or cut on a straight line? If not, we offer on the job training too!

If you are unable to come on Monday, we also need people to sew squares together. That can be done on your own time at home.

We need material to make the tops. Cotton or cotton blends are the preferred material. We also can use good sheets of medium to dark colors for the quilt backs. (We can't use white sheets)

Please consider joining us ~ just come when you can. It does not have to be an every week commitment.



Grace, peace and greetings to all of you!

All of us here in North Dakota have been enduring a prolonged period of extreme cold followed by slightly warming temperatures, which will hopefully lead us into the glorious colors and smells of Spring. The seasons of the church year are changing as well. It is very appropriate to look at the season of Lent as that season of inner growth of soul, as we transform from the old habits of sin to renewed life in Christ. We become part of that Christ experience as we walk with him to the Cross and to Resurrection. We remind ourselves of the gifts of liturgy as it teaches us about the renewal of heart and soul. We confess our sins; we are lifted up by the Word; we are fed by the Body and Blood of Christ. And then we are sent out into the world fully equipped to engage in the life of service to and for each other.

Lent stands for the season of Spring, or the lengthening of days. The original period of Lent was 40 hours, not 40 days. It was spent fasting to commemorate the suffering of Christ and the 40 hours he spent in the tomb. In the 3rd century, Lent was lengthened to six days. Around the year 800 CE it was changed to 40 days. Ash Wednesday begins 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays. Those 40 days correspond with Christ's 40 days of suffering and temptation in the wilderness. The Lenten season is intentionally set aside for self-examination, instruction, repentance, and prayer. In the Lenten season, self-examination is crucial. It is a call for purposeful reflection on one's need for God. Fasting is one of the disciplines of Lent, but not one that all people can observe. More importantly, the purpose of a Lenten discipline is to strip away those things which clutter one's life or impede one from a solid relationship with God. It is a time for all of us to experience and reflect upon the sufferings of Christ.

On a lighter note, there was something I learned in my reading not long ago. In the fifth century,

Christians were known to make dough of flour, salt, and water, which they shaped into the form of two crossed arms to remind themselves to pray during Lent. This newly shaped baked item became known as a pretzel. Later, German bakers made the pretzel to represent a Christian at prayer with his palms on opposite shoulders, making a crisscross of his forearms. The product was called "little arms" or "bracellae," which later was called "brezel" or pretzel. At that time, the pretzel was only eaten during the season of Lent.

To all of you, I wish for all of you a Happy Easter and all the blessings of new life as we venture into Spring.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Rob



¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:19-25)

When it comes to describing church, my favorite word is assembly. According to Martin Luther, we are assembled by the Holy Spirit for our sanctification through "the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." We are brought together, assembled, by the Holy Spirit, so the Holy Spirit can make us holy, through what our denomination calls the "use of the means of grace." It is a document outlining why and how we do church.

The first principle in the document reads, "Jesus Christ is the living and abiding Word of God. By the power of the Holy Spirit, this very Word of God, which is Jesus Christ, is read in the Scriptures, proclaimed in preaching, announced in the

forgiveness of sins, eaten and drunk in the Holy Communion, and encountered in the bodily presence of the Christian community. By the power of the Spirit active in Holy Baptism, this Word washes a people to be Christ's own Body in the world." So, one of the reasons we do church is to be sanctified, to be made holy, in order to be a clean representation of Christ to the world.

A second and more obvious reason we do church is to worship God. The season of Lent is about returning to God, not because of what God gives us but because God is God and deserves our worship and praise. "For I the LORD your God and a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments." God is jealous for our attention, and deserves our attention because, as Luther says, it is God "who gives us body, life, food, drink, nourishment, health, protection, peace, and all temporal and eternal blessings."

Almighty God became flesh and blood, was born among us and grew up. He demonstrated God's love and power as he walked among us, and then he gave the ultimate sacrifice for us. He died on the cross for our sins. Through his death and resurrection he gives us eternal life with God Almighty. What greater reason is there to worship the one true God on a weekly if not daily basis? God calls us to worship, and in our worship in church, God blesses us with the gifts of Word (Scripture and preaching) and Sacrament (baptism and communion) to empower us to be the body of Christ in the world. So, brothers and sisters in Christ, as we approach the holiest day of the year, Easter, let us return to worship the LORD, and thank God for all the LORD has done and continues to do for us.

Together in Christ, Pastor Mark

**Thank You
To Our**



SPONSORS

Thank you to the following for sponsoring the Sunday morning broadcast of FLC worship for the month of March: Kelly & Frances Olson in memory of loved ones; Members of First Lutheran Church.

We need radio sponsors!

Please check your special dates and call the office (444-3244) to sponsor a Sunday in 2019. Cost is \$110.00 per broadcast.

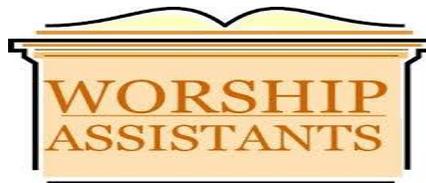


This past month, we have been doing a bunch of fun stuff with the youth! With Sunday School, we have been making art projects that align with our Bible story each week and hanging them in the sanctuary in the basement, as well as having the singing before the 11:00 worship. It has been fun seeing what the kids come up with as well as seeing their learning come to life on our walls. The confirmation kids are taking a break from classes during the Lenten season but are our servers for the soup supper before our worship on Wednesdays. The confirmation and LYO + friends joined in on a ski trip to Red Lodge Montana during the first weekend in March. The kids had a blast and rocked the picture competition we challenged them to! We had some fun memories captured and the winner won a bag of candy at the candy shop! This last Sunday on March 17, we had our youth-led worship and it was so fun! We learned a lot on what worked and what to do differently next time, but the kids did so great! That's all the updates so far, but we are looking forward to what is to come in the next few months before summer! Peace to you all and see you soon! Hayley

Easter Flowers



If you would like to donate a flowering plant to decorate First Lutheran Church's sanctuary for Easter, please pick up an Easter flower order form at FLC and drop (along with payment) in the offering plate or by the office. Cost is \$12.00 per plant and deadline to order is April 14th.



6:15 PM April 3 Lent
Ushers: Confirmation Students

9:00 AM April 7 Regular Sunday

Reader: Sue Jorgenson
Greeters: Jason & Jenna Bauer
Ushers: Brian Anderson / Arden Berg
Coffee Hr: Arlene Johnson / Arlys Frazier

11:00 AM

Greeter: Derek Holen
Usher: Aubrey Wollan
PowerPt. Nolan Dahl

6:15 PM April 10 Lent

Ushers: Confirmation Students

9:00 AM April 14 Palm Sunday

Reader: Marcia Hellandsaas
Greeters: Nyla Dahl
Ushers: Marcy & Gene Hilleren
Comm.: Kelly & Frances Olson
Coffee Hr.: JoAnn Faulkner /
Marcy Feilmeier

11:00 AM

Greeter: Jason & Peggy Leiseth
Usher: Jason & Amy Lund
Comm.: Karla Quale / Donna Slais
PowerPt.: Jory Lund

6:15 PM April 18 Maundy Thursday

Ushers:

6:15 PM April 19 Good Friday

Ushers:

6:15 PM April 20 Vigil of Easter

Ushers:

9:00 AM April 21 Easter Sunday

Reader: Ari Johnson
Greeters: Einar & Sonya Prestangen
Ushers: David & Celeste Berg
Comm: Owen & Laurie Hamre
Coffee Hr: LYO

11:00 AM

Greeter: Jarvis & Kadie Sorenson
Usher: Mark & Dorie Sparby
Comm: Lyle & Sue Best
PowerPt.: Kanyon Tschetter

9:00 AM April 28 Regular Sunday

Reader: Steve/Gretchen Stenehjelm
Greeters: Brandon & Brittney Bradford
Ushers: Ken & Carol Sanford
Coffee Hr: Tyrell & Britnee Sweet

11:00 AM

Greeter: Jaret & Megan Wirtz
Usher: Mike & Stef Russell
PowerPt.:



Women of the ELCA Circles

Tuesday, April 2

10:00 AM--WELCA Gen. Mtg. at FLC

Monday, April 8

5:00 PM -- Hope at the Horizon

Tuesday, April 9

2:00 PM – Garden at the Horizon

Wednesday, April 10

1:30 PM -- Peace at FLC

Wednesday, April 24

2:00 PM – Banks at Vonnie Johnson's



The Upper Missouri Cluster, Women of the ELCA, Spring Gathering will be on Saturday, April 6th at First Lutheran Church in Tioga beginning with coffee at 9:00 am. For more information, please contact Frances at (701)770-8502.



**First Lutheran Church
WELCA**

**Spring Luncheon
Fundraiser**

Thursday, April 25th



**11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
at FLC Centennial Hall**

Serving casseroles, beans, salads & desserts. Cost: \$10.00

Take out also available...invite your family, friends & co-workers!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Reminder!

Deadline for Clarion articles is by the **15th of the month.**

Please drop off or e-mail any articles to the office at First Lutheran Church.



First Lutheran Council Minutes February 10, 2019

Council Members Present: Craig Paulson, Angie Moe, Jeff Meyer, Keith Helmuth, Erica Johnsrud, Glen Beard, Vawnita Best, Katie Tschetter, and Jenna Bauer

Council Members Absent: Keith Helmuth, Ashley Holen, Jeremiah Beard

Others Present: Pastor Rob Favorite, Pastor Alyssa Quade, and Hayley Moe

President Glen called the meeting to order at 6:03PM and devotions were given by Glen. The meeting was turned over to Pastor Rob for Council reorganization. Moved by Erica, seconded by Angie, to nominate and elect Craig Paulson as President. All voting aye, motion carried. Moved by Craig, seconded by Glen, to elect Angie Moe as Vice President. All voting aye, motion carried. Moved by Angie, seconded by Craig, to elect Erica Johnsrud as Secretary. All voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Glen, seconded by Jeff, to approve the minutes as presented. All aye, motion carried.

Glen provided a report from WELCA. WELCA will reimburse the church for the new carpet and installation in the parsonage. WELCA will also be replacing the glass covers on the free-standing altar and communion cup table. WELCA is willing to monetarily support a facelift of the flower bed and outdoor carpet at the parsonage if the Property Committee will organize the work.

Discussion was held on changing the Committees. Council consensus was to leave as they are for the time being

and for the Committees to discuss the proposed changes. Committee responsibilities were discussed and Council members were assigned to Committees as follows:

- Finance – Jeff, Keith, and Jeremiah
- Property – Glen and Craig
- Worship – Angie, Erica, and Katie
- Stewardship/Evangelism – Angie and Jenna
- Youth/Education – Ashley, Craig, Vawnita, and Katie
- Mutual Ministry Committee – Craig, Erica, Angie, Vawnita

Discussion was held on decorating the Church for Christmas and the possibility of making it a congregational event.

Committee Reports:

Finance: (Jeremiah/Jeff/Keith) – Trust Committee met and agreed to move \$450,000 from the Iverson Trust to pay down principal on the building loan. Endowment Fund is willing to match at a 2:1 ratio, up to \$1M, on a capital campaign for the building loan and this will be advertised in the bulletin. Finance committee will continue to look at the options of getting a fixed rate on the building loan.

Property: (Glen/Craig)- Glen discussed the need for new downstairs lighting. Moved by Katie, seconded by Jenna, to approve the downstairs lighting project to replace with LED lights, to gather a quote for an additional light switch, and to ask the Endowment Fund to cover one-half of the cost. All voting aye, motion carried. The Bell Tower repair project is upcoming this year.

Worship: (Erica/Angie/Katie) – Worship Committee will be meeting next week to discuss Lenten services and select hymns. February 24 will be new member Sunday with WELCA organizing a potluck following the 11:00 service.

Stewardship-Evangelism:

(Jenna/Angie) – No Report

Youth & Education: (Ashley/Craig/Vawnita/Katie) – The last two weeks have gone well with more kids at Sunday School and moving in the right directions. Hayley reported she is working on a revamp of the program to include music, incorporation of more learning, and coordination of more projects. An

Open House was suggested to showcase the Sunday School areas to let the congregation see what the kids were learning. March 17 will be a Youth Lead Worship Service at 11:00.

Mutual Ministry: (Craig/Angie/Erica/Vawnita) – No report.

Old Business: The Council discussed the hiring of Pastor Alyssa full-time and clarified that at the January meeting the motion of the Council was to research available funds and job descriptions before moving forward. Pastor Rob was asked to put together lists of duties the pastors are performing to assist in the research of the need for a third full time employee. Pastor Rob stated he would put the requested information together. Discussion was held on the request at the Annual Meeting to move Council terms to 3 years and 9 members.

New Business: Several Council members were approached with the idea of participating in providing daycare services. The Council had concerns over liability, wear and tear, and additional costs. Erica will talk with Social Services on daycare requirements and report back at the March meeting. Discussion on goal-setting and strategic planning for the Church was held. The Council discussed asking the congregation for ideas of programs and other things they would like to see.

Staff reports:

Pastor Rob: There are continued issues with the radio broadcast not being clear even after the phone was replaced and this will be investigated further. Pastor Rob stated Garrett Gudmunsen had asked about using the Church for the funeral of Gary Johnson on February 16th and this was approved by the Council.

Pastor Mark: Not present.

Pastor Alyssa: Pastor Alyssa reported she is on maternity leave beginning in March and that Hayley Moe will be taking over most of her duties. The Women's Bible Study will continue for the next 3 weeks.

Moved by Erica, seconded by Glen, to adjourn. All voting aye, motion carried. Erica will do devotions at the March 10th meeting at 6:00pm. Those in attendance closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Council Corner

Welcome to Council Corner, a new feature in the Clarion! Each month a different council member will be writing this column as a way to share information and to allow for you to get to know more about your council representatives. My name is Erica Johnsrud and I am the daughter of Jeff and Ann Johnsrud. My husband, Chas Neff, and I purchased and live in my grandparents' house southeast of town. I moved back to Watford City in 2013 after spending a number of years in Kansas City. I am so happy to be home! I currently serve as the Secretary on FLC Council, am a member of the Mutual Ministry and Worship committees, and sing in the Choir. This month I would like to talk about stepping out of our comfort zones to welcome visitors to our congregation and church. One of the goals of the FLC Council is for our church to be welcoming and sometimes that can get a little uncomfortable. I recently heard that sometimes for new visitors or new members to the church it seems like being back in grade school worrying about lunch and recess times and afraid to sit in someone's "spot." I know I tend to get stuck in a rut when it comes to which pew I sit in or who I sit with during coffee hour. I know we have many people in our congregation that are doing an awesome job welcoming new people and I would encourage everyone to introduce yourself to those you don't know, sit in a different spot during services, or make it a point to invite people to coffee hour to get to know more about them. We have a beautiful church filled with wonderful members and let's work together to grow and be welcoming to all! Please share with me any ideas you have about ways in which we can be more welcoming to our visitors and, as always, know that I am available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have and welcome all to be involved in the various activities and committees within the church.



Happy Spring and Happy Lenten tidings to everyone. Our ladies are in the process of polishing brass in preparation of our Easter Celebration. Our next meeting is April 4th at 5:30 pm. We want to thank everyone who is helping with Altar Guild. Many hands make light work. Installation of Altar Guild is April 7th at the 11:00 service. Our newest members are Jennifer Sorenson and Kyla Beagles. We are looking forward to Swanny Schmidt to come back from Arizona. Swanny has much knowledge to share. Everyone is welcome.

Lenten School Supply Drive

The FLC Worship Committee is conducting a school supply drive during the season of Lent. As you prepare for the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, we invite you to participate!

Items needed:

- Children's sweatpants – variety of sizes
- Children's Tennis Shoes – sizes 6 & 7 are most needed
- Disinfecting Wipes (Clorox, Lysol, etc)



Monetary donations will also be accepted to purchase needed items. Please bring donated items to the First Lutheran Church during Lent.

Thank you for helping our schools with needs they have identified!

McKenzie County Healthcare System Auxiliary

Pancake
Breakfast



Sunday, April 7th
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Civic Center
Everyone invited!

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www.glasbergen.com



"Wireless communication is nothing new.
I've been praying for 75 years!"



The Path Forward, for Building Loan Repayment...



First Lutheran Church Trust Committee has pledged up to one million dollars from the Endowment Trust Fund, matching two dollars for every one dollar the congregation can give towards the Building Fund between now and June 30th, 2019, with no limit on individual contributions.

Please clearly mark "**Building Fund**" on any contributions so your offering will receive this special 2 for 1 funding match that will be applied directly against the building loan principal.

Example: **Your Building Fund Donation - \$100**
 Endowment Trust Fund Match - \$200
 Total Loan Principal Payment - \$300

**Thank you for
your donation!**