



First Lutheran Church

We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.

February 2016 Parish Visitor

From the Pastors...

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

These words are spoken to us on Ash Wednesday when the sign of the cross is made on our foreheads in ashes. It is truly a “come to Jesus” moment when the future of us all (our death) meets the past that changed the future of us all (the cross of Christ). In his death and resurrection, Jesus takes on our sin (the sins of the world!) and gives us his righteousness – as a gift, free of charge, given in love.

It is a costly gift, a precious gift, a gift given from the heart of God, so that our hearts might be filled with the desire to *love the Lord our God with all our heart, strength and mind – and love our neighbors as ourselves*. It’s also a powerful testimony to the world – that we followers of Jesus can see in a symbol of death the way to a life of *shalom* (peace, contentment, wholeness, hope) now, and at the end of our lives, the blessing of being in God’s eternal presence.

Perhaps this is why Martin Luther, in his Small Catechism, encourages everyone to make the sign of the cross and pray at the beginning and end of each day. Here are his prayers for you to enjoy (and share with your loved ones!).

THE MORNING BLESSING. Writes Luther: In the morning, as soon as you get out of bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say, *God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen. I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.* The he adds: After singing a hymn...or whatever else may serve your devotion, you are to go to work joyfully.

THE EVENING BLESSING. In the evening, when you go to bed, you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say, *God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen. I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.* He concludes with these words: Then you are to go to sleep quickly and cheerfully.

I invite you to come to worship on Ash Wednesday, March 10th and receive these words and ashes. Then I invite you to follow Luther’s suggestion throughout the season of Lent: making the sign of the cross and then praying morning and night. And don’t forget to also go to work joyfully and go to sleep quickly and cheerfully!

In Christ,
Pastor Scott



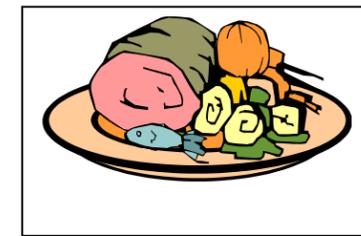
Children, Families and Youth News

Annual Youth Sponsored Lenten Suppers are scheduled again!!

Help support Youth and Family Ministry at First Lutheran! Enjoy a nice warm meal together as a family. Invite your friends to join you too.

Meals are served from 5:00 -6:05 pm in the Fellowship Hall on Feb 10 (Ash Wednesday), Feb 17, and 24, March 2, 9, and 16. **These meals are made and served by the youth as a fundraiser for their programming costs. This is why the price is higher than our “light meals on Wednesdays”.**

**ADULTS (12--UP) \$6.00
YOUTH (5--11) \$4.00
CHILD (4--UNDER) \$2.00
Family Cap of \$20.00**



**THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THE
YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY!!**

It’s Senior Class Pictures Time again!! If you have gotten your class of 2016 senior pictures taken or are going to be taking them soon....please remember to bring in a wallet size picture for our Class composite. Thanks!



SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP TO SPONSOR SPRING FUNDRAISER SILENT AUCTION AND MEAL! Looking ahead....The month of March promises to put the FUN in FUNdraiser! We will have our annual Silent Auction filled with various items and services for you to bid on.

Anyone is welcome to put something on the auction to help out the youth! Bidding will start on Saturday Feb 27 from 5:30-7pm. We will finish up on Sunday March 20 for brunch and run until 11am to celebrate the close of the bidding and announce whose bids were the top. Auction items will be publicized soon as well as the meal and prices. Thanks for supporting the youth!! We definitely need you all!

Souper Bowl Sunday is Feb 7!.....and that means its Noisy Offering Time! HEY 1st LUTHERAN! Senior High Youth want to challenge YOU!! “Souper” Bowl Sunday Feb 7th ! (yes! It’s spelled wrong on purpose! ha ha!) Bring loose change (or bills...but they don’t make noise) on the Wednesday February 3rd Worship, or to the Saturday, February 6th Worship, or the Sunday services on Feb 7th and we are going to have a NOISY OFFERING to raise money for the hungry!! Thanks for participating!



**Youth Works FAMILY Mission Trip....families of all ages!
Sunday, July 10- Wednesday, July 13, 2016 Yankton, SD**

While studying on sabbatical, it was reiterated again and again that statistics show that service is more likely to “stick” when it’s not an event but a process. And the process is greater when it is shared by families. There is a unique strength that comes when family members serve not solo but as a team.



We have a family at First Lutheran that has experienced this firsthand. Neil, Stacy, Landon, and Salem Frost write:

“Grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ as you serve others in the unique community of Yankton, SD, on the Missouri River. Sunday night through Wednesday morning, you worship, serve, reflect and play. Youth Works provides tools and tips called “Sticky Faith” throughout the trip, so families continue to grow in faith beyond the mission trip. Our family went in 2013, the first year it was offered in Yankton. Our favorite service day was at a nursing home. We visited with residents and brought them to various activities throughout the day. We refreshed water pitchers, walked the resident dog and put his new crate together. We were able to choose where we would serve each day. We met great people from other congregations in the Mid-West. A Yankton photo scavenger hunt was another highlight of the trip.”

FIRST LUTHERAN IS PROVIDING A TRIP THIS SUMMER! July 10-13, 2016!! If your family is interested, the cost is \$129 per person. However, the youth and family ministry committee will be providing a small scholarship for each congregational member. (This is to be determined.) Meals are provided through Youth Works. Travel is on your own. Lewis & Clark State Park offers a great camping experience if you’re interested in extending your trip *on your own*. If you have any questions about the experience, please contact Neil & Stacy Frost, 507-532-2580.

There will also be a Questions and Answers time between services on Sunday Feb 7th in the Sanctuary at 9:45am if you would like to hear more first hand from the Frosts. If you have questions about registering, just call Tonya at the church office.

So, does your family want to join in this summer?? If so, provide a \$60 deposit per person along with the family registration form. (Attached to email, at church office, or on our website)

Please register by March 1st.

New Member Orientation

We are believers seeking to invite all into the Caring, Sharing, and Growing ways of Christ!

New Members will be welcomed Wednesday, February 3 at 5:15pm; Saturday, February 6 at 5:30pm and Sunday, February 7 at 8:30am & 10:45am.



Planning time is here!!

We are assembling our Vacation Bible School Planning Committee and would like to have our first meeting SOON! There are many ways to help out!! Here are just a few...

- **Child Care Coordinator** – oversee child care providers & help plan activities
- **Crew Leader Coordinator** – assist in training & supervising Crew Leaders
- **Imagination Coordinator** – assist in planning & gathering materials for the student projects (art projects & science experiments!)
- **VBS Celebration Night Coordinator** – assist with planning the VBS Celebration Night activities & put together a set up and tear down crew.

Please call the church office 532-2429 or email me at kmarks@iw.net & let us know how you’d like to help!



Reminder: There will be NO TLC Wednesday on Wednesday, February 10 because there is no early out at school that day.

Other Important Items

MEALS ON WHEELS: YOU have the ability to make a positive impact on others through something as easy and simple as donating an hour or two to help with our local Meals on Wheels. First Lutheran has volunteered to deliver meals **February 1st through the 12th** (Monday thru Friday).

What you do: Deliver hot meals to people in the community.

Timing: Arrive around 10:45- takes about an hour to deliver.

How many we need: There’s four routes- so a minimum of four people per day. Works well to also have a friend deliver with you. ☺

If you’re willing to help out, please call or email Dorothy Krogen, Social Ministries Committee.

Email cwkajk@hotmail.com or Phone: 612-710-0390

Please take an hour and make a difference through helping with Meals on Wheels.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION – TREASURER REPORT

FOUNDATION FUND – Market Value: \$295,869.00 1/1-12/31/2015

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| YOUTH FUND (designated) | = \$180,659 |
| TECHNOLOGY FUND | = \$28,405 |
| OUTREACH FUND (undesignated) | = \$75,031 |
| SEMINARY FUND | = 1,957 |
| SCHOLARSHIP FUND | = 9,817 |

EARNINGS & DISTRIBUTION

YOUTH FUND

Earnings = \$-(6,982.00)
Contributions = \$1,166.00
Distributions = \$6,000.00
Account Value = \$180,659.00

RADIO/TECHNOLOGY

Earnings = \$-(1,069.00)
Contributions = \$0
Account Value = \$28,405.00

OUTREACH

Earnings = \$-(2,823.00)
Contributions = \$0
Account Value = \$75,031.00

SEMINARY

Earnings = \$-(74.00)
Contributions = \$25.00
Account Value = \$1,957.00

SCHOLARSHIP

Earnings = \$-(183.00)
Contributions = \$10,000
Account Value = \$9,817.00

KIDDER FUND – Market Value: \$65,957.00
Earnings = \$-(3,740.00)
Vehicle Expense = \$2,046.98
Youth transportation = \$285.00
Account Value = \$65,957.00

EXPENSES & GAINS/LOSSES – BREMER BANK MANGEMENT & TRUST

MARKET VALUE = \$361,826.00
INCOME = \$7,897.00
EXPENSE/FEES/TAXES = \$3,831.00

First Lutheran Women News

Important Dates

February 1 1:00pm Quilting – Host: Deborah Circle
February 3 6:00am Bible Study – Movie Room
February 3 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder Estates
February 3 5:15pm Board Meeting – Movie Room
February 8 7:00pm Esther Circle Meets – Fireside Rm
February 10 6:00am Deborah Circle Meets
February 10 9:30am Hannah/Elizabeth Circle Meets
February 15 1:00pm Quilting – Host: Deborah Circle
February 17 6:00am Bible Study – Movie Room
February 17 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder Estates
February 24 6:00am Bible Study – Movie Room
February 24 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder Estates



You may read this before or after we've celebrated **Bold Women's Weekend**.

Do you know any Bold Women?

First Lutheran Women's Mission Statement asks us "To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ". **We all Act Boldly in whatever we do.** **Boldness** comes in many forms.

Some are bright and loud. Some are firm and quiet. Women at First Lutheran celebrate this range of voices, knowing that the avenues for bold self-expression are limitless. The important thing for us to remember is that we 'mobilize' ourselves and others in fellowship or activities, to share the good news of God's word and to show His love for ourselves and others. There have been **bold** women all around us along our way, if only we look for them. Who do you thank the Lord for? Let their boldness flourish in our hearts as we live out our baptismal call to serve our neighbor, with all our heart, with all our mind, and with all our strength.

What do you believe is your best BOLD?



Quilting at First Lutheran

Have you ever wondered what First Lutheran Quilters were all about?

Many women think, "I'm not a quilter". Best part about our group is that you don't have to be a 'quilter'. Yes, quilts do get made but the work is divided up and the 'sewing' can be done at home.
> The process begins by taking the donated material that has been cut into squares and laying them out into a pattern. (can be

done at church or at home)

> These squares are then sewn together into a quilt top. This sewing can also be done at church or at home. No experience is needed and no perfection is required. This is a perfect way to get a young person interested in sewing. We do have machines that can be borrowed for this purpose.
> The top is then put on a frame with a filling and back. The quilters then tie knots onto the squares to hold all layers in place.

> Once this is done, the hem is pinned for the person who finishes the quilt.

> The quilt is then finished by someone sewing the hem. (again done at home)

It is a fun afternoon to join other women in laughter and fellowship while doing something so rewarding. Many lasting friendships have been formed over the years.

Join us to see what we're all about.

We meet the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month from 1-4 in the afternoon.

And remember that we are Lutherans, so besides the laughter and fellowship, coffee and treats are served at 2:30!

PS – our quilts are made for those in need, either given to LWR or those in need within our area. If you know of someone needing a warm quilt please call Dawn Planting at 507-828-8157 or the church office for more details.

CANews FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Mark Your Calendar

- + 2nd Annual women's Tea and Ski- February 6th
- + Marriage Retreat – February 12th-14th
- + SLM Annual Meeting – February 14th
- + Shetek Bible camp Quilters – February 17th
- + Board retreat- March 4th -5th
- + Shetek Confirmation Retreat – March 11th & 12th
- + Shetek Bible camp Quilters – March 16th
- + Pre-marriage Retreat – March 19th
- + Sugarbush – March 20th 10-1pm

For more information go to our website shetek.org

You are invited to...

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

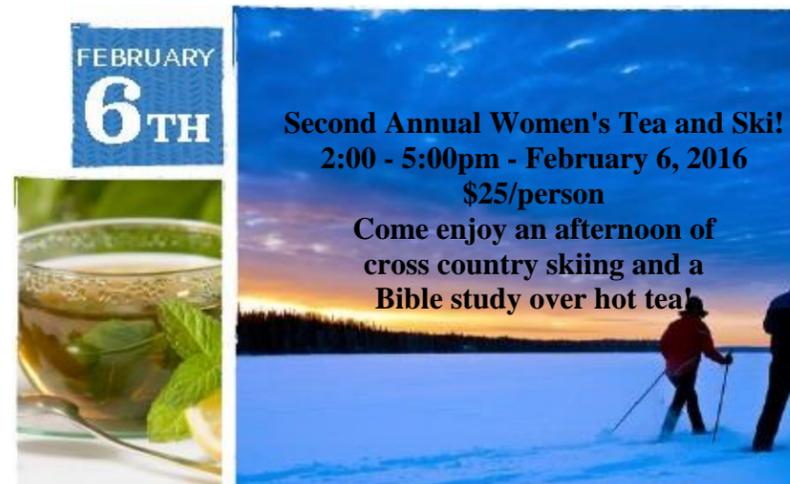
Annual Meeting

When: February 14th 2016

Where: SLM dining hall

Time: 4p.m.

Supper: 5:30p.m. Valentine supper



Worship Schedule

Wednesdays - 5:15pm

Saturdays - 5:30pm

Sundays – 8:30am & 10:45am

Radio – Sundays at 11am on 1400AM or 103.3FM

Local Cable TV – Tuesdays at 7:30pm and Wednesdays at 1:30pm

Charter 180 & Vast 17

Church Office Phone: 507-532-2429

Church Office Email: firstluth@iw.net

Pastor Scott Fuller

E-mail: revscottfuller56@gmail.com Phone: 507-476-8961

Pastor Julie McCain

E-mail: pastorjuliemccain@gmail.com Phone: 310-938-1346

www.1stlutheran.org

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!

Youth Web Site – www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com