



First Lutheran Church

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

January 2016 Parish Visitor

From the Pastors...

Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.

Matthew 2:2

Light shining in darkness can be such a wonderful surprise, especially when it illuminates our paths. Imagine the surprise and wonder and joy that the wise men must've felt at the arrival of a star that would lead the way for them. After Christmas, we enter the season of Epiphany, which is one of my favorite times of the year, because it helps me remember that Christmas doesn't end on December 25. Instead, the light shines in the darkness. The darkness doesn't overcome it. And the light illuminates the way for us.

At the same time, I know all too well that the after Christmas lull can feel like a strange limbo. A season filled with such a flurry of activity and expectation ends, the decorations are put away, and it can feel like we pack away some of the light of Christmas alongside the decorations.

But the wise men, who visited Jesus several years after his birth, remind us that Christ's light keeps right on shining in the darkness. They remind us to keep our eyes open for stars in the night sky that might be illuminating a new path for us. And they remind us that we too are called to worship this newborn king, and to be so changed by the experience that we too go home by another way.

This Epiphany we hope you continue to feel and see Christ's light shining all around you.

Blessings,
The Pastors

Children, Families and Youth News



IT'S PIZZA FOR SUPPER!!!

Mark it down!! On **Monday January 18th** we are predicting that...YOU WILL BE HUNGRY FOR PIZZA!! There's no school on this day so your kitchens will be a mess because the kids have been home all day....you will not want to cook supper.... So.....TAKE EVERYONE TO THE **PIZZA RANCH** in Marshall!!

The Mission Trip Youth from First Lutheran will be serving at the **Pizza Ranch in Marshall on January 18th from 5-8pm!** Bring yourself! Bring your families! Bring your friends! Bring anyone you can think of!! Money earned will go toward our mission trip this coming summer to Kenosha WI. Thanks so much for your support! We will get 10% of the meals sold that night during the time we are there and *100% of the donations!*



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!! Start gathering now... ☺

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. 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 and no later.
Together, let's help make our faith "stick"!



Reminder: TLC Wednesday will begin again Wednesday, January 6 & TLC Sunday will begin Sunday, January 10!

Praying in Color Workshop
Sunday, January 10th 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.
In the Unfinished Basement



For the learning piece of the First Grade Prayer Milestone, **First Grade students and their parents** will come together to discover a new active and creative way to pray to God. For some, speaking to God comes naturally; for others, speaking to God feels awkward especially when we can't find the words or begin to stumble in mid-sentence. Praying in Color offers an alternative way. Join us in discovering this imaginative way to pray.



1st Grade Milestone – Prayer

First Grade students will receive their **Prayer Stone** on **Sunday January 10th** at either the **8:30 or 10:45 a.m. worship service.**



This Milestone for First Grade students contains an education portion as well. There is a workshop for all **1st Grade Students & their Parents** between services on the same Sunday, January 10th from 9:45-10:45am in the Unfinished Basement.

New Member Orientation

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

Are YOU interested in becoming a member of the family of faith called First Lutheran Church? Or would you simply like to find out more information about First Lutheran Church?

If so, please choose one of the upcoming New Member Orientation sessions to attend...

- Wednesday, January 27 @ 6:30pm
- Sunday, January 31 @ 9:45am



Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family

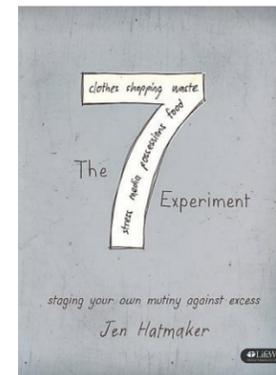
These New Member Orientation Sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Contact the church office if you or someone you know is planning on attending at (507) 532-2429 or at firstluth@iw.net. Childcare will be provided. Please let us know if you will need childcare.

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.



8th Grade Confirmation Student/Parent Meeting

On **Wednesday, January 27 at 7:15 pm (right after Confirmation)** there will be a meeting in the Gethsemane Chapel for **parents & 8th Grade Confirmation Students.** This meeting will have information for you about dates and events leading up to your Confirmation day!



The 7 Experiment – Women's Bible Study

Staging Your Own Mutiny Against Excess by [Hatmaker, Jen](#)

Do you feel trapped in the machine of excess? Jen Hatmaker was. Her friends were. And some might say that our culture is. Jen once considered herself unmotivated by the lure of prosperity, but upon being called "rich" by a child who was living in poverty, evidence to the contrary mounted, and a social experiment turned spiritual journey was born. This study will lead you through this same experiment, at whatever level you choose, in seven key areas: food, clothes, spending, media, possessions, waste, and stress.

What's the payoff for living such a deeply reduced life? It's the discovery of a greatly increased God—a call toward Christ-like simplicity and generosity that transcends a social experiment to become a radically better existence. Join in on this 9 week DVD Women's Bible Study titled *The 7 Experiment* and let's make room in our lives to better know Christ. The cost of the member book is \$13.00. We will meet **Wednesdays from 7:00- 8:00 p.m. in the Movie Room beginning January 6th.** Registration forms are available in the narthex or the church office. All are welcome—invite a friend.

First Lutheran Women News

Important Dates

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| January 4 | 1:00pm Quilting – Host: Women's Board |
| January 6 | 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study Meets at Boulder Estates |
| January 6 | 5:15pm Board Meeting – Movie Room |
| January 10 | 9:30am General Meeting – Sanctuary, Host: Esther |
| January 11 | 7:00pm Esther Circle Meets – Fireside Rm |
| January 13 | 6:00am Deborah Circle Meets |
| January 13 | 9:30am Hannah/Elizabeth Circle Meets |
| January 18 | 1:00pm Quilting – Host: Women's Board |
| January 20 | 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder Estates |
| January 21 | 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry – Fireside Room |
| January 27 | 9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder Estates |
| January 27 | 5:45pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Serves TLC Supper |
| January 30-31 | BOLD Women Weekend |



Shetek Lutheran Ministries

CANews FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Mark Your Calendar

Stargazing and Skiing – January 2nd 8-10p.m.

Scriptacular Retreat- January 22nd -24th

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

Thank you for your support!
The Shetek staff and board
would like to thank you for your
support!

Your gift enables us to offer
outstanding programs, maintain
the day to day operation,
provide camperships, and
continually update our facilities.

As we look forward to the future
we are excited about all that is
ahead as God continues to lead
us in new directions.

May God richly bless you for
your support!
Wishing you a Happy New Year!

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



**FEBRUARY
6TH**

Second Annual Women's Tea and Ski!
2:00 - 5:00pm - February 6, 2016
\$25/person

**Come enjoy an afternoon of
cross country skiing and a
Bible study over hot tea!**