



First Lutheran Church

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

March 2018 Parish Visitor

From the Pastor...

Into your hand I commend my spirit (Psalm 31:5)

The beautiful words printed above are found in Psalm 31, in which the psalmist runs the gamut of emotions from pleading to praising, from fear to faith, and from anger to a sense of assurance that God is his rock and refuge. He laments his struggles in life, which means that he feels free to share his grief and sorrow, but doesn't let them define him.

That is a tightrope walk for everyone – when the fortunes of life turn against us, when the proverbial rug gets pulled out from underneath our feet, when the surprise of bad news or the presence of pain intrudes, we are presented with a terrible challenge. We search for healthy ways to *lament*, to express our pain and confess our disappointment, without letting those feelings dampen God's invitation to trust and persevere.

At worship on Wednesdays in Lent, we'll be looking into those shadow areas of life and faith that can cause us confusion and pain. Yet through every pain we experience, every hardship we endure, we are assured by the words of the psalmist, especially because Jesus speaks those very same words from the cross, *Into your hand I commend my spirit* (in Luke's story of the crucifixion, 23:46). It is, I believe, in a strange and beautiful way, one of the most powerful proclamations of *good news* that we could ever hope to hear.

For these words, on the lips of our dying Lord, speak volumes about the way in which God understands the pain that is a particular part of your life and mine: physical, emotional and spiritual. When we cry out with the psalmist, or a friend, or even when we cry alone, we know that we have a listening ear, an understanding look and a tender embrace from the God whose own Son cried those same words too.

It is my prayer that the season of Lent for you will be filled with moments of insight and spiritual blessing. Join us for worship as we walk through the shadows of life and faith toward the One who is the Light of the World.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

Children, Families and Youth News



Hy-Vee Cards available for Purchase!

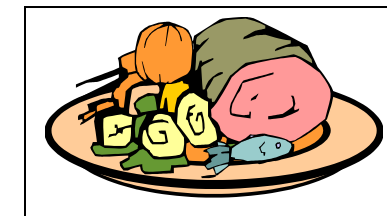
The Houston youth will continue selling the HyVee gift cards throughout the year as a part of their fundraisers. We have \$50 cards and \$100 cards. Everyone needs groceries....and its money you would spend anyway, if not all at one time, eventually. By using the gift cards, part of the money will go to the youth! Thanks!



Annual Youth Sponsored Lenten Suppers for you and your family!

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 every Wednesday. **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 - If you have gotten your Class of 2018 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!

HOUSTON YOUTH TO SPONSOR SPRING FUNDRAISERTHE ANNUAL 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 for a two week period. Everything is set up in the unfinished basement.



Anyone is welcome to put something on the auction to help out the youth!



Bidding will start on Sunday March 11 and will end on March 25

We will finish up on **Sunday March 25 with our PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION BRUNCH** serving from 9:15am to 11am.

Egg Bake and Cinnamon Rolls! Free-will offering.

Bidding will stop at 11am! *We'll announce the bids that were the top.*

Winners will be able to pick up their item from noon until 1pm. Thanks for

supporting the youth!!

Auction items will be publicized soon!

IT'S PIZZA FOR SUPPER!!!



Mark it down!! On Monday March 26th YOU WILL BE HUNGRY FOR PIZZA again!! So TAKE EVERYONE TO THE PIZZA RANCH in Marshall!!!

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering Youth from First Lutheran will be serving at the Pizza Ranch in Marshall on March 26th from 5-8pm! Bring yourself! Bring your families! Bring your friends! Bring anyone you can think of!! Money earned will go toward our trip this coming summer to Houston. 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!!



Hey 2018 Seniors! Apply for a College Scholarship

First Lutheran Church, with financial support from the First Lutheran Church Foundation, is pleased to announce the opening for applications for the annual Norman and Irene Timm Memorial Scholarship.

This scholarship was made possible by the generous contribution of the Timm family, in memory of their parents, who were long-time First Lutheran Church members. **The 2018 scholarship is for \$500**, and is open to

seniors that are involved at church, attending college in the fall, and have some goals for your future, which you'll write about in your essay. Applications can be found at the church or on our website. The deadline is April 29, 2018.

The American Legion Auxiliary is offering a scholarship in the amount of \$500 to a senior daughter or granddaughter of a veteran (living or deceased). Application forms can be obtained from Marshall High School Guidance Office. Deadline for applying is April 25th, 2018. Any questions please call Jeanne Kvick at 507-532-9729.

Thank you First Lutheran!!

Noisy Offering 2018..... The senior high youth collected **\$494.88!** FLY will be deciding the recipient for the 2018 collection soon!

TLC WOW (Wild on the Word) Memory Work Presentations:



TLC Wednesday & TLC Sunday Pre-K thru 6th grade students have been working in their classrooms and at home on various Memory Work Assignments. Throughout the month of March, each grade level will take turns presenting a portion of their memory work during one of the Sunday morning worship services.

Below is the schedule...

Sunday, March 4 @ 8:30am Pre-K Students - Five Finger Prayer & prayer postures
Kindergarten - Table Prayers

Sunday, March 11 @ 8:30am 1st Grade - The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary Version)
2nd Grade - Variety of Bible Verses

Sunday, March 18 @ 10:45am 3rd Grade - Commandments 1-5
4th Grade - Commandments 6-10

Sunday, March 25 @ 10:45am 5th Grade - Old Testament Books of the Bible
6th Grade - New Testament Books of the Bible

Each TLC family will receive an email with all the details at least one week prior to the Sunday of your child's presentation in worship.

Register your children for Shipwrecked VBS 2018, pay the registration fee, AND register to Volunteer ALL online!! It's so easy!!



Shipwrecked VBS 2018 @ First Lutheran

June 5-8 from 8-11:15am

PreK-6th Grade (must be 4 by September 1, 2017)

Early Bird Registration by May 4: \$20/student (\$50 family cap)

After May 4: \$25/student (\$60 family cap)

** If you register after May 4 you are not guaranteed a T-Shirt**

5th & 6th Graders: Register as a Leader In Training

Do your own craft/projects, help out your Crew Leader & get a T-Shirt.
Take \$5 off your registration fee – and write L.I.T. on the 'Additional Comments' line.



Here is how to Register Online...

Go to the First Lutheran Website – www.1stlutheran.org and then...

1. Click on the Ministries tab
2. Click on Children, Youth, & Families
3. Click Register Online VBS 2018 (right side of page)

You can register children for VBS on that page, register as a volunteer, and pay on that page. You can also pay online at the same time you register. Hint: you do have to scroll down on the initial registration page in order to see the “pay now” button to click on to complete the online payment. Call the church office if you have questions 532-2429.



Looking Ahead

Acolyte Training: All 4th Grade Students who wish to be an Acolyte are invited to attend one of the Acolyte Training Sessions offered. You can choose to attend either **Wednesday, April 4th from 3:15-4:15pm** or **Sunday, April 8th from 9:30-10:30am**.

There will be an installation of new Acolytes during both Worship Services on Sunday, April 15th where you will receive your Acolyte cross and Acolyte Stone for the 4th Grade Milestone Celebration. We hope you will consider becoming an acolyte. Contact Kitsi by email at kmars@iw.net or in the church office at 532-2429 if you have any questions.



Other Important Items

St. Stephen Lutheran Preschool will be holding an Open House Sunday March 4th from 3-5pm. Registration will open that night for Fall 2018 and is open to all 3-5 year old children in the community on a first come, first serve basis. For more information contact Diane Carter, Director at preschool@ststephenmarshall.org or 507-537-1516.

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

Welcome



We are pleased to welcome the following into the First Lutheran family of faith!!

Chris Cordes, Dealyn Rose, Anna & Logan Rose

Jay & Anna, Brynn, Broden, & Brax Stensrud

Kasey, Kyleigh, & Harper Thooft

First Lutheran Women News

Important Dates

March 7	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study
March 7	5:15pm Women's Board Meeting
March 12	7:00pm Esther Circle
March 14	6:00am Deborah Circle
March 14	9:00am Elizabeth/Hannah Circle – Ardella's
March 19	1:00pm Quilting
March 21	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder
March 28	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder



Thank You...

First Lutheran Women are indeed grateful for the annual donation of \$10 given by First Lutheran families to the Funeral Ministry Fund. Because of your annual support, this important ministry continues to provide for families during a difficult time in their lives. After each funeral, family members graciously express their sincere appreciation for this ministry.

Envelopes for your 2018 funeral donation of \$10.00 will be available on the center table in the Narthex after March 1, 2018.

Checks can be made out to First Lutheran Women with a notation as Funeral Donation. Donation envelopes can be returned to the Church Office or placed in the worship offering plate.

If you have questions, contact Funeral Co-Coordinators Kim Christianson (530-2301) or Shirley Anderson-Porisch (828-1945).

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

CANEWS FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Mark Your Calendar 2018

March 10th - Pre-Marriage Retreat
March 10th - Family day making maple syrup
March 16th & 17th - Confirmation Retreat
March 25th - Sugarbush
April 20-21 - Confirmation Retreat
April 21 - Pre-marriage Retreat
April 22 - Spring Toddlers and Trees
April 28 - Spring Clean-Up Day

For more information call 763-3567 or check out our website at www.shetek.org

Help send Kids to camp...Become a Pelican/Timber member today. For more information call 763-3567 or www.shetek.org

SUGARBUSH Sunday, March 25th 10am-1pm

Want to learn more about the timeless tradition of making homemade maple syrup? Find out the secrets of the Indigenous Peoples and the pioneers as we tap and boil off delicious sap for a local delight!

- Delicious, homemade pancake breakfast—all the fixings!
- Cultural and historical aspects of maple syruping
- Science of syrup—how do trees work to make sap?
- How it works—boiling off and making syrup

Come and join us for an exciting, delicious, and educational time together learning about a timeless (and scrumptious) pastime!



Worship Schedule

Wednesdays during Lent 6:15pm
Saturdays - 5:30pm
Sundays – 8:30am & 10:45am

Radio – Sundays at 11am on 1400AM or 103.3FM
Local Cable TV – Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 5pm
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

www.1stlutheran.org

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!
Youth Web Site – www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com