

The Messenger

Volume 28 Issue 2 Office 996-7706 e-mail: luther@mitchellfirstlutheran.org Fax 996-7727 February 2025

FEBRUARY FOCUS.....



Sunday, Feb 2nd

First Lutheran will be hosting

Rev. Chris Matson of Church on the Street

This ministry is one of our Partners in Solidarity with the SD Synod of the ELCA.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: On Tuesday, **May 13** from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. First Lutheran will be volunteering on site at **Laundry With Love** in Sioux Falls. This is part of Church on the Street's outreach ministry. We will be serving food, preparing packets of laundry pods and dryer towels, counting quarters, and offering hospitality.

CAMP SUNDAY

Sunday, March 2nd

9:30 - Worship with
Pastor Dave Zellmer, Lutherans
Outdoors Interim Executive Director



Come & learn
about Bible Camp
opportunities!

Valentine Bake Sale



The annual Valentine Sale begins on February 8 through February 14. This fundraiser benefits the First Lutheran Post-Secondary Scholarship. Heart shaped cookies, brownies and rice-krispie treats.

The sale dates are as follows:

- ♥ Saturday, February 8: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- ♥ Sunday, February 9:
After the worship service
- ♥ Tuesday, February 11:
12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ♥ Wednesday, February 12:
12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ♥ Thursday, February 13:
12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ♥ Friday, February 14: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Quantity orders will be taken in advance

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

COUNCIL MINUTES — January 14, 2025

Please note: these minutes have been edited for the newsletter.

The full minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ Confirmation resumed "Lutheran Living"
- ◆ Finalized budget and stewardship is done.
- ◆ Working on cottage meeting planning and policy manual
- ◆ Been asked to host Theological Conference in the fall

Deacon's Report:

- ◆ Lovely Christmas worships, earlier service was attended by more than the second.
- ◆ Choir will do a choral event on Palm Sunday.
- ◆ Christina Nath is considering a Children's hand bell choir
- ◆ February 2 Pastor Chris Matson from Church on the Street will be here for worship
- ◆ Attended Prairie Rivers Conference
- ◆ Performed a funeral for Elaine Duvall

Ministry Reports:

- ◆ Faith Formation: Nine milestones for this year. The calendar is available. High School Bible study tomorrow night. Middle Schoolers will go to Faith Fest at Augustana on February 8. Camp weeks are July 20 and July 27.
- ◆ Stewardship: (given by Pastor Scott) - Waves of Blessing is the theme this year and will include three challenges: increase for regular givers, first time givers and one time gift to the building fund. Hope to be in the mail this week.
- ◆ Property: Have not received a bid for the bell tower tuck pointing. We are experiencing a little water in the basement bathroom. Thinks it's caused by condensation rather than a leak. Bought a leaf blower to blow snow. Keeping an eye on the water heaters as they are getting close to end of life. It will be a substantial cost when replacement is necessary. Tessiers did provide a new contract for maintenance, \$3,120 for the year. The final amount for the water bill credit was \$4,143, some applied in December, the rest will be this year.
- ◆ Evangelism: (given by Pastor Scott) - The direct mail was sent out before Christmas. Will probably do again for Easter.

Reception of the Treasurer's Report: December income \$40,792.20; expenses \$36,284.87. Net ordinary income for December was \$4, 507.33. Year to Date net ordinary income is \$441,207.98 and total expenses was \$440,381.80 leaving a net ordinary income for the year \$826.18. Steve made a motion to receive the Treasurer's report, seconded by Amanda Schutz. Motion carried.

New Business: Pam moved to approve the proposed budget, Steve seconded. Motion passed. Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 26, 2025 following worship.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS:

December 1	151/OL:116	\$7,467.52
December 4	44	\$250.00
December 8	181/OL:60	\$8,074.00
December 11	36	\$102.00
December 15	238/OL:184	\$8,316.85
December 18	22	\$7.00
December 22	161/OL: 72	\$4,859.10
December 24	401/138	\$6,491.00
December 24	Online: 82/42	
December 29	125/OL: 104	\$5,800.60

December 2024 Offering \$40,368.07

\$34,347.00 is needed per month to meet monthly budget.



You can support the ministries of First Lutheran through

venmo



FIRST
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Items for Personal Care Kits are always welcome!



The following items are included in each Personal Care Kit:

- ⇒ One light-weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27") dark color recommended
- ⇒ Two to three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- ⇒ One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ⇒ One sturdy comb (no picks or fine tooth combs), remove packaging
- ⇒ One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Items can be placed in the tote in the Glass Lobby.
Monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office.

February's Noisy

Offering is being collected for the First Lutheran Scholarship (First Lutheran Post-Secondary Scholarship). This scholarship is available to First Lutheran high school seniors and current First Lutheran college students attending any accredited technical college, college or university.



Deloris Spry died December 26, 2024. Funeral services were

Thursday, January 2, 2025 at Bittner Funeral Chapel with burial at the Serviceman's Memorial Cemetery, Mitchell, SD.

Misty Bryant died January 5, 2025. A memorial service was Saturday, January 18, 2025.



Youth Bell Choir

@ FIRST LUTHERAN

We are looking for **3rd - 6th graders** interesting in starting a **Youth Bell Choir!** No musical experience is necessary!

Practice is held Sunday's @ 4:30 p.m.

Please reach out to **Christina Nath** if interested (605-770-3082).

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, February 17 in observation of Presidents Day!



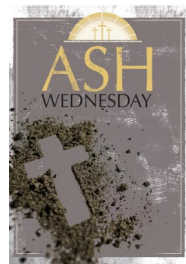
February Prayer and Care Worship

Each month First Lutheran leads worship at Mitchell retirement and care centers. All are welcome to attend.

- *2:00 p.m. February 13 at Firesteel
- *2:00 p.m. February 18 at Brady
- *7:00 p.m. February 25 Wesley Acres
- *11:00 a.m. February 26 at Edgewood South

The Prairie Rivers Synod Assembly meeting is Sunday, February 23 at Trinity Lutheran.

Registration starts at 2:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 2:30 p.m.



Join us for Ash Wednesday Worship on Wednesday, March 5 at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Supper will be served prior to worship at 5:15 p.m. The high school students and their parents will be serving sloppy joes, chips and veggies. Mid-week Lenten Worship will follow through Holy Week in the Sanctuary.

CHANCEL CHOIR SINGING DURING WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 19



Gather Study Group Dates & Times

- ◆ **Tuesday, February 4**
 - ◇ 11:30 a.m. WELCA/
FLCW Board Meeting,
First Lutheran Church Library
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 5**
 - ◇ 9:30 a.m. Lydia Group, Countryside Game
Room
- ◆ **Thursday, February 6**
 - ◇ 9:30 a.m. Sarah Group, Family Life Center

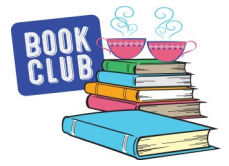


Book Club

Here is a list of upcoming titles
for book club

- 📖 February 24: *Stolen Innocence*
by Elissa Wall and Lisa Pulitzer
- 📖 March 24: *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummings

Book Club meets on the 4th Monday of each month at
10:00 a.m. at First Lutheran Church in the
Family Life Center



Scholarship



First Lutheran Post-Secondary Scholarship

Scholarship applications
were mailed to First Lutheran high school
seniors. College students may pick up an
application in the church office.

Applications are due March 1.

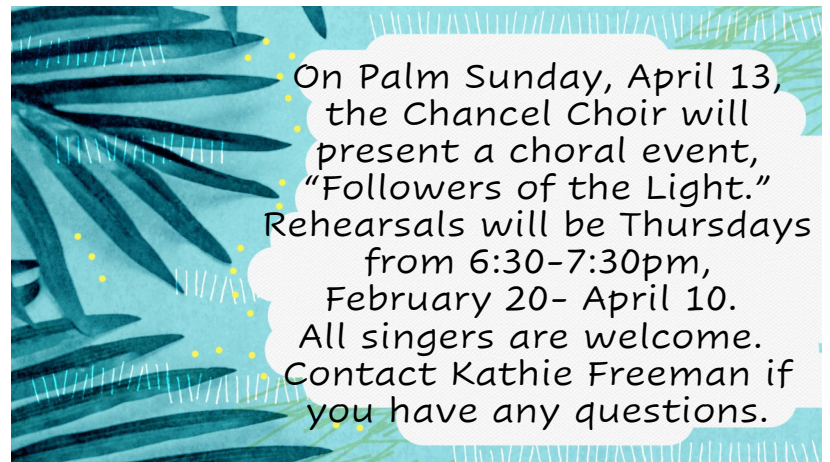
No late submissions will be accepted.

Prairie Rivers Scholarship

The Prairie Rivers Scholarship is for
students planning to attend, or presently
enrolled in an ELCA college (Augustana,
Concordia, St. Olaf, Gustavus, etc.)

Applications can be picked up in the
church office.

Applications are due April 1.



The Valentine cookie
project began in 2016
and has helped fund 46
scholarships to First
Lutheran students pursu-
ing post-secondary
education. Those 46
scholarships have been
funded entirely by money raised during the
year – rummage sale, noisy offering, and the
cookie project. Thus, the money from the
original scholarship fund, dating back to
2002, which was given only to students at-
tending an ELCA college/university, has not
been used to fund the 46 scholarships. The
church council voted to invest that original
scholarship money and hopefully it will
eventually generate funds for future
scholarships.



The Valentine cookie project
would be happy to have some
additional involvement.

Opportunities include:

- *Promoting – place a poster in your
workplace and share the selling
dates with potential customers (posters and sale-
date cards will be available on the table in the
sanctuary)
- *Cutting sandwich bags
- *Cutting ribbon
- *Selling cookies – MS and HS students needed for
Saturday, February 8 and after school February
11,12,13
- *Being a customer

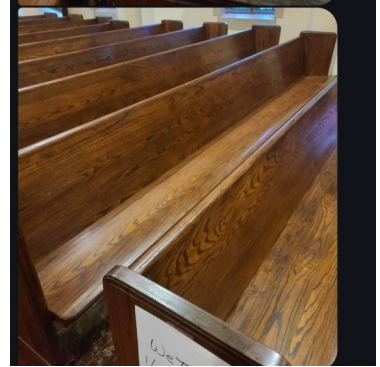
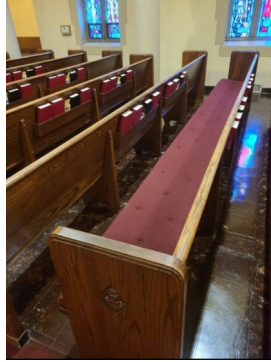
Please sign-up on the clipboard on the counter in
the Glass Lobby.



JOURNEY WITH JESUS STUDENTS
LEARNING ABOUT CELEBRATING THE
COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AT
PENTECOST.



THANK YOU TO JIM BUCK, RUSS JOHNSON, TIM
VANPELT AND BRUCE WARD FOR REFINISHING
THE PEWS IN THE SANCTUARY



PREVIEW OF UPCOMING ITEMS FOR THE VALENTINE
SALE, FEATURING COOKIES, BROWNIES,
RICE-KRISPIES AND CUPCAKES



WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, HAND BELL CHOIR, DOVE COOKIES AND CHILDREN'S SERMON



WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, CELEBRATION SUNDAY, PRAISE TEAM, CHILDREN'S SERMON, PANCAKE BRUNCH & ANNUAL MEETING

