



# the Spire

MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020 SPIRE

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (651)388-9311  
office@firstlutheranrw.com  
www.firstlutheranrw.com

## FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF

**Arthur Sharot: Senior Pastor**  
ext. 15 / arte42@gmail.com

**Marilee Anderson: Director of Music**  
ext. 19 / marilee.a.anderson@gmail.com

**Tina Goeman: Director of CYF**  
ext. 14 / tina@firstlutheranrw.com

**Gina Nelson: Bookkeeper, PT**  
ext. 11 / bookkeeper@firstlutheranrw.com

**Laurel Stinson: Administrative Assistant**  
ext. 10 / office@firstlutheranrw.com  
Dial 6 to leave a message

**Syl Andersen: Custodian, PT**  
H: 651/388-7453 C: 651-380-8663

**Brian Fladhammer: Maintenance, PT**  
H: 651/388-2675

## 2019 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kathy Emery - President/Personnel  
Alyson Kloeckner - Treasurer/Youth & Family/  
Education/Finance  
Joe Rice - Finance/Personnel  
Wendy Erickson - Secretary/Life and Growth  
John Laidlaw - Stewardship/Education  
Cyd Mark- Vice President/ Worship  
Tom Sasse - Worship  
Matt Stinson -Stewardship  
Mary Weberg - Christian Action  
Mark Jaeger - Property  
Bunny Kulstad - Life and Growth  
Jon Ubbelohde - Property

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sunday

**9:30 a.m.** Worship in the Sanctuary  
**10:30 a.m.** Fellowship Hour  
**10:45 a.m.** Sunday School (*Sept- May*)

### Wednesday

**12:00 p.m.** Reset Prayer Time  
**5:00pm** Dinner (*Sept- May*)  
**5:30pm** Worship (*Sept- May*)  
**6:00pm** Education (*Sept- May*)

### Saturday

**5:30 p.m.** Worship in the Norelius Chapel

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Kaitlynn Kukuska, Crystal Swanson, Marcia Krause, Jenny Edmonds, Bob Swanson, Janet Larson, Horst Radtke, Carol Peterson, Adair Palmatier, Doris Johnson, Bob Weir, Carl Meyer, Dan Jones, Darrell Nelson, Cheryl Youmans, Holly (Dissell) Benson, Dylan Michel family, Carol Krie, John Oleson, Edla Bodelson, Ray Boggess, Jerry, Arthur Sharot Sr., Leah Larsen, Laura Anderson, Glenda Anderson, Brian Schiller, Tom Sasse, Jerry Krie, Jon Kinneman

## FUNERALS

*Our sympathy and prayers go out to those mourning the loss of a loved one.*

**Evelyn Everts**, who died December 15, 2019. A funeral service was held at First Lutheran Church, December 20th.

**Joanne Hosking**, who died December 15, 2019. A funeral service was held at First Lutheran Church, January 11th.

# FROM THE PASTOR

## LENT IS COMING...



### LENT

Historically, Lent was a time of preparation and examination for candidates for entrance into the Christian faith through baptism. Candidates learned the faith, and were tested to see if they were worthy. Later, according to Pastor Mary Fairchild, “Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. The Lenten

season is a time when many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection.”<sup>1</sup>

### ASH WEDNESDAY- February 26, 2020

We start Lent with our Ash Wednesday services at 11am followed by Lunch at noon & 5pm dinner followed by worship at 6pm.

### THE BAD NEWS

We will not be having ecumenical worship services around the park this year. With all the transition in our sister congregations we don't have enough churches to make it happen.

### THE GOOD NEWS

This gives us the opportunity to do something different. This year, instead of the people going from church to church, the pastors will be going from church to church in a 'round robin'. This year's theme is to be determined. Each week a different pastor will come to First Lutheran and give us the message. We will still be using the Holden Evening Prayer service, a long time Lenten favorite. We will meet for Dinner at 4:30pm, Worship in the fellowship hall at 5:30 and Education at 6:15 (note time changes).

### EXCITED

I am really excited about this new opportunity. This will be a chance for people of all 3 services to come together, eat, worship and enjoy fellowship.

### ADULT ED AT THE MOVIES - 6:15p.m. Wednesdays during Lent

The confirmation students and any interested adults will watch some movies over a couple of weeks. (We will have to split the movies up because they are too long to watch in 45 minutes). Then we will have discussions about the movies and what they have to say about our faith. The movies will be “Lars and the Real Girl”, “Ground Hog Day” and one TBA. This should be interesting and a lot of fun.



### ANXIETY

On Wednesday, February 5, at 6pm, we will have a guest speaker Kali Sharot, a Doctoral Nurse Practitioner Student, in Mental Health lead us in a session about Anxiety (What it is, what we can do about it and when to seek help). This will be for students grades 7-12, parents and anyone else who is interested.

<sup>1</sup> Learn About Lent and How the Lenten Season Is Observed

# THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you who remembered me with your prayers, cards and phone calls during my recent illness. Also thanks to the LCW for the lovely Christmas poinsettia plant. God bless all of you at First Lutheran.  
-Margaret Banks

Thank you very much to my church family for the beautiful poinsettia. It means a lot to me to be remembered. Also a thank you to the women's circle for the greeting cards. Bless you all. Love,  
-Donna Benson

To our nice ladies for the poinsettia. It is doing very well.  
-Marian and Don Nelson

Once again with grateful hearts for your generosity in allowing the Red Cross blood drive to use your fellowship hall. Best wishes to everyone for sharing; see you in February. Sincerely,  
-Sandy Luhman

Thank you for all the prayers from my First Lutheran family, the lovely flower and to Jean Fjelsted for bringing communion to our home. It is all very much appreciated. Bless you all.  
- Laura Anderson

I feel blessed by the people of First Lutheran Church. Over the holidays I received a beautiful poinsettia and cards from both the Women's Circle and Mary Circle. Thank you to all! In Christ,  
-Jean Lynner

Your donation of \$100 helps us make a difference in the lives of youth in our community. We value your thoughtfulness. On behalf of all Youth Outreach kids...Thank You

**Dedicated to Brian Fladhammer and Syl Andersen  
The Church Custodian**

**Consider custodians, for members are few,  
Who give them the honor and praise they are due.  
They seldom are mentioned by sinner or saint  
Excepting when someone makes a complaint.**

**The temperature was never found or maintained  
At a degree about which no one ever complained;  
Some folks are too warm, while other folks freeze  
And manage to cough, to snuffle, or sneeze.**

**Some feel there's a draft that will cause them to ail,  
While some say the air is too stuffy and stale.  
The pews and the floor must be dusted and swept,  
All articles placed where they ought to be kept.**

**It seems that some people will never put back  
The Bible or hymnal they take from the rack.  
All preachers are praised for the sermons they bring,  
and Choirs acclaimed for the music they sing.**

**But scanty and rare is the praise we accord  
For the people who care for the house of the Lord.  
So when we give others the praise they are due,  
We all should remember custodians, too.**

## **Belgian Waffle Breakfast**

Join us on February 9th from 8-12 for breakfast!

Tickets \$7 in advance \$8 at the door.

All proceeds from this event will go for youth scholarships for Summer programs (Camp Wapo and Mission Trip). Can't be here but still want to help... donations are always welcome. Buy a ticket or two for friends, family or co-workers.

## **Everyone's Birthday Party**

Wednesday February 19th 6:00

Everyone is invited to join us for a birthday celebration! There will be 12 cakes, and you will join fellow birthday month buddies to decorate a cake and enjoy. We will have some decorations on hand, but feel free to bring a favorite for your birthday team. There will be sign-ups in the Narthex to bring a cake.

# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**January 14, 2020**

**Present:** Aly Kloeckner, Matt Stinson, Mark Jaeger, John Laidlaw, Tom Sasse, Jon Ubbelohde, Kathy Emery, Cyd Mark, Mary Weberg, Pr. Arte Sharot, and Wendy Erickson  
Devotions and Treats were offered by Jon Ubbelohde.

The meeting was called to order by Kathy Emery, council president.

**Agenda:** MSC (moved, seconded, carried) to accept as presented.

**Secretary's Report:** Amended to include motion to designate \$30,000 as housing allowance for Pastor Arte Sharot. This is done yearly and is for tax purposes. MSC as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Aly reported that the finance team recommends a few changes to the budget. These changes will be reflected in the budget presented at the annual meeting. MSC to accept the finance team recommendation.

MSC to accept the treasurer's report and check register.

**Staff Reports:** Pastor Arte noted a grant available from the Synod for continuing education for \$500. An application will be submitted. The grant will be used for the continuing education provided by Gustavus Adolphus, which is \$500. MSC to apply for grant and use for continuing education. MSC to accept staff reports.

## **Ministry Team Reports:**

**Worship and Music:** The Christmas Eve attendance at changed service times was reviewed (3:00-173, 4:30-189 and 6:00-60). Two people from FLC will be taking community education class on using soundboards. There will not be any ecumenical Lenten services this year. However, First Lutheran will continue to have weekly Wednesday Lenten services using the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy.

**Property:** The roof is leaking again (still). Felber Roofing came and checked it out. The railing at the front entrance on West Ave. rusted off at the bottom and was removed. It was MSC to accept the lowest bid and replace it. Plans were designed for remodeling the floor in the music storage room off the altar area. MSC to remodel the room, spending up to \$1000.

**Life and Growth:** In March, the Life and Growth Committee will be offering personalized cake pans for sale as a fundraiser (probably for new confirmation robes).

**Youth and Family:** The VBS curriculum has been chosen. Fundraising plans for the mission trips are made, including butter braids, hot dishes and the youth serving the meal on Ash Wednesday. Tina is looking at a curriculum for the high school youth about finances and stewardship.

**Christian Action:** First Lutheran provided gifts and food for 10 families through the Christmas Project. Funds were also raised to provide food for a family of four for a year with Feed My Starving Children. There has been a request to help with volunteers and/or meals with the homeless project in Red Wing.

**Stewardship:** no report

**Personnel:** No specific personnel report but Kathy updated the committee on the names for the nominating committee for 2021.

## **Old Business:**

**Big Turn Music Festival:** Concerts will be at First Lutheran on 2/21 and 2/22. The committee is working with BTMF staff to determine our need to supply volunteers, electrical needs and other details.

**Insurance:** There is a policy credit if a church member does some video training and assessments of risk factors. Matt volunteered to do this.

## New Business

**Republican Eagle:** The RE is instituting charges for having the church information listed each week. It was MSC to proceed with the \$150 option as it allows changes to our information as needed and provides more information.

**Annual Meeting:** The meeting is scheduled for January 26. As usual, the new council will meet immediately after to elect new officers. The next regular meeting of the council is February 11, 2020 and John Laidlaw will provide devotions and treats.  
Respectfully submitted, Wendy Erickson

## Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Update

We are planning a congregational discussion on February 23 at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. We will show a film clip from MN public television and discuss the RIC process.

## Women & Wine Book Review

*"Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US"*  
by Lenny Duncan

*The latest book read by our group was a great one for deep thought and discussion. The title gives you the right idea, it is a provocative book, and has many concepts that are, at times, difficult to process and understand. That being said, we reached the consensus that reading this book with a group was great, and inspired a lot of talk about what we are doing well as a church, and how we can be better. There will be a copy in the church library, and we encourage you to check it out. If you would like to have someone to discuss it with please feel free to reach out to a participant of this group.*

# DECEMBER 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR December 2019

	Dec Actual	Budgeted Dec	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>				
General Fund Pledges	32,226	32,500	389,168	390,000
Mission Support	85	38	1,546	500
Other Income	7,450	8,092	51,895	54,870
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>39,761</b>	<b>40,630</b>	<b>442,609</b>	<b>445,370</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
General Operating Expenses	38,619	36,658	418,025	442,024
ELCA Benevolence	2,083	2,084	25,500	25,000
Other Outside Giving	1,324	1,323	15,740	15,740
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>42,026</b>	<b>40,065</b>	<b>459,265</b>	<b>482,764</b>
<b>Income vs. Expenses</b>	<b>-\$2,265</b>	<b>\$565</b>	<b>-\$16,656</b>	<b>-\$37,394</b>
Beginning Cash Balance 1/1/19	\$ 124,476	Operating Fund Balance 1/1/19	\$ 13,522	
Ending Cash Balance 12/31/2019	\$ 119,267	Operating Fund Balance 12/31/2019	\$ (3,144)	

# FEBRUARY "JOY IN DOING"

## BREW CREW

- 2 Murph and Lois Berg
- 9 Clark and Jean Fjelsted
- 16 Dwight and Arlene Gustafson
- 23 Norm and Nancy Wille

## ACOLYTE AND CLEAN UP

- 2 Leah Ganser
- 9 Jack Mahoney
- 16 Alyssa Rice
- 23 Greta Sloan

## SATURDAY ASSISTANT

- 1 Penny Oleson
- 8 Cheri Roberts
- 15 Sandy Sharot
- 22 Big Turn - No Worship
- 29 Barry and Jean Dossdall

## LECTOR

- 2 Gloria Solsaa
- 9 Karen Strusz
- 16 Mary Weberg
- 23 Wendy Erickson

## GREETERS

- 2 John and Julie Laidlaw
- 9 Terry and Yo Baby Lohman
- 16 Kevin and Cyd Mark
- 23 Daryl Mark

## USHERS

- Gerry (Chair) & Holly Peterson
- Ron Holthe
- Dean & Linda Reinhart
- Dennis & Deb Rindels
- Diane Ringeisen
- Jerry Seivert
- Milt & Rosie Sorensen

## COFFEE HOSTS

- 2 Pam Hallahan, Linda Lindell
- 9 Waffle Breakfast
- 16 Johnson Anniversary
- 23 Bill and Barb Raw

## COMMUNION

- 2 Colin and Karen Graves, Kelly Kolby
- 9 Bunny Kulstad, John and Julie Laidlaw
- 16 Ellen Mackey, Kevin and Cyd Mark
- 23 Dick Houghton, Daryl Mark, Charles Schwartau

## TREATS

- 2 Pam Hallahan, Linda Lindell, Dale and Linda Kinneman, Marilyn Knutson
- 9 Waffle Breakfast
- 16 Johnson Anniversary
- 23 Bill and Barb Raw, Keith and Joan Larson, Beverly Lein, Kevin and Cyd Mark

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Margaret Banks' 90th Birthday - Please join us for an open house celebration for Margaret's 90th birthday. It will be held at First Lutheran on Saturday, February 15, from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. No gifts please.

*You're invited to celebrate Arlan & Phyllis Johnson's 50th Wedding Anniversary with us on Sunday, February 16th. We'll worship together with special music by the Johnson children & grandchildren, and Kristian will be preaching. A reception and short program will follow with cake and a light lunch. No gifts, please.*



# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Saturday Worship is Cancelled on February 22nd for Big Turn Music Fest</b>						1 5:30 pm Worship - Jean Fjelsted plays
2 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School	3 5:00pm Learning Circle Board Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	4 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons 4:30pm Praise team 4:00pm-7:00pm Team Meetings	5 8:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Reset 4:15pm Kids Rock 5:00pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 5:45pm Ringers 6:00pm Education Speaker on Anxiety 7:00pm Choir	6 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	7	8 5:30 pm Worship - Marilee Anderson plays
9 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School 7:00pm Women and Wine	10 7:00pm Scouts 7:00pm Scouts - Blue and Gold Banquet	11 10:00am Hospice 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons 4:00pm Finance 4:30pm Praise team 6:30pm Council Meeting	12 8:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Reset 1:00pm Quilting 4:15pm Kids Rock 5:00pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 5:45pm Ringers 6:00pm Education 7:00pm Choir	13 11:00am Red Cross Blood Drive 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	14 1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive	15 5:30 pm Worship - Marilee Anderson plays
16 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School	17 6:30pm Girl Scouts	18 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons 7:00pm Eve	19 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:30am Martha 10:00am Mary 12:00pm Reset 4:15pm Kids Rock 5:00pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 5:45pm Ringers 6:00pm Everybody's Birthday 7:00pm Choir	20 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	21 9:00am Spire Folding <b>Big Turn Music            Fest</b>	22 <b>Big Turn Music            Fest- No Worship</b>
23 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:30am RIC Meeting 10:45am Church School 7:00pm Women and Wine	24 7:00pm Scouts	25 10:00am Hospice 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons	26 8:30am Men's Bible Study 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Quilting 5:00pm Dinner 6:00pm Worship	27 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	28	29 5:30 pm Worship - Jean Fjelsted plays

## First Lutheran Church

615 West 5th Street  
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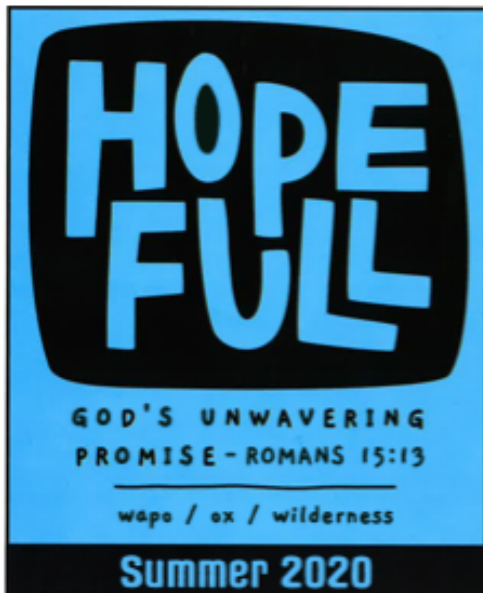
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FEBRUARY 2020

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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## HAPPENINGS

### Camp Wapo Registration Starts Soon!



Join us this summer to learn about the hope we have in Jesus Christ! Build friendships, engage in praise and worship, play crazy fun games, and so much more, as we grow together in God's grace and love.

**register at [campwapo.org](http://campwapo.org)**

registration opens 1.15.20

priority deadline 3.15.20

Our direct Registration Link is:

<http://wlbc.com/first-redwing>

Seeds Weekend: August 7-9

Youth Camp Week: August 2-7