



the Spire

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 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

Volunteer: 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

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alyson Kloeckner - Treasurer
Joe Rice - Finance/Stewardship
Wendy Erickson - President
Life and Growth/Personnel
John Laidlaw - Stewardship/Education
Cyd Mark- Vice President/ Worship
Jean Fjelsted - Worship
Matt Stinson -Stewardship
Mary Weberg - Christian Action
Mark Jaeger - Property
Bunny Kulstad - Life and Growth
Jon Ubbelohde - Property
Judie Bowes -Personnel
Elaine Ahern - Education

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
4:30pm Dinner (*during Lent*)
5:30pm Worship (*Sept- May*)
6:15pm 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, Grosso family, Richard Jonas, Nikki Mahoney

BAPTISM

Mason Daniel Conroy, child of Abby and Jason Conroy, was baptized at First Lutheran on Saturday, February 29, 2020.

FROM THE PASTOR

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. John 15.4 nrsv



John 15, Jesus reminds us of our connection and our dependency on him. We need to stay connected to Jesus. Many of our household appliances need to be connected to electricity in order to function. Like those appliances, we won't be who and what we are if we are not connected to Christ. As we continue with the Lenten season here is a challenge for you that will hopefully help your connection to Jesus. Pick one of the activities below, only one, and do it for the whole month of March. As you do this activity, remember the reason you are doing it, is to abide with Christ, who is our source of life and power.

OPTION 1

Prayer. Block out 10 minutes every day. It's best if you can do it the same time every day, a place where you will not be interrupted, a quiet place or go for a walk. Don't answer the phone, go on the internet, or check social media. Start your prayer by asking God to use this time to help you abide with Christ. Go through the names of your family, friends and First Lutheran, asking that they too abide with Christ. End by asking if there is anything you need to hear and then just listen. Use a timer. If you have to use your phone as a timer, put it on sleep or do not disturb.

OPTION 2

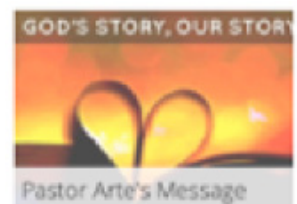
Sing. Take a hymnal home. Yes, you have my permission. Block out 10 minutes every day. It's best if you can do it the same time every day. Find a place where you will not be interrupted, a quiet place. Don't answer the phone, go on the internet, or check social media. Start by asking God to use this time to help you abide with Christ. Open the hymnal and sing or read through hymns out loud. Use a timer. If you have to use your phone as a timer, put it on sleep or do not disturb.

OPTION 3

Silence. Silent listening prayer. Block out 10 minutes every day. It's best if you can do it the same time every day. Find a place where you will not be interrupted, a quiet place. Don't answer the phone, go on the internet, or check social media. Start by asking God to use this time to help you abide with Christ. Silently, listen for Christ to speak to you. If you find your mind wandering, refocus by praying something like, "speak Lord, your servant is listening" as Samuel did. Use a timer. If you have to use your phone as a timer, put it on sleep or do not disturb.

God bless you,
Pastor Arte

Look for my weekly message link in Wednesday's e-newsletter or find it on the webpage at www.firstlutheranrw.com



FAITH FORMATION NEWS AND EVENTS

We're (Going to Be) Debt Free!

On October 27, people from 5 different households and different walks of life, began the nine-week course, Financial Peace University (FPU). This biblically based course was created by Dave Ramsey to teach people how to get out of debt, plan for retirement, any road bumps along the way, and to become outrageously generous. As Dave says, we "live like no one else, so that later we can live and give like no one else".

We were led by a volunteer coordinator and watched videos that covered the baby steps to getting our finances in order so that eventually we can enjoy our money. The curriculum included a weekly video, workbook and access to online tools including a budgeting tool, debt calculator, retirement calculator, and access to financial coaches. Our class fee includes this online support for one year.

Topics covered included: how to get out of debt, how much to set aside as an emergency fund, what types of insurance to carry, how to save for college/house/retirement and how to become outrageously generous. In two and a half months, our group managed to pay off approximately \$12,000 worth of debt—and this was over the holidays!

Most of us are still on Baby Steps 1 and 2 (putting aside \$1,000 for emergencies and getting out of debt), but we are off to a great start. It has inspired discussion about presenting the youth version of the course to our high school students so that they can benefit from the tips at an early age.

If you are interested in participating in a course or want more information, please reach out to Tina Goeman or Danielle Rice.

Education Notes for the Month

No Wednesday School, March 4th-Spring Break
No Sunday School, March 8th- Spring Break

Mark your April calendar now:

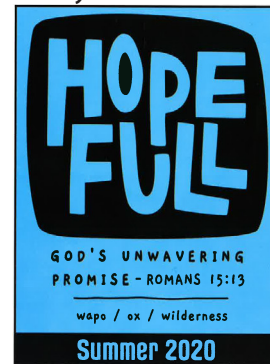
Saturday, April 4th
First Communion Class
Palm Sunday Breakfast set-up



Youth Fundraiser

Butter Braids are Back!

Our young people will be selling butter braids for summer trips. We will be selling March 18 to April 8. They will be delivered on April 27, just in time for spring gatherings. Watch for our young people with order forms before and after worship during that time, or contact Tina at the office to place your order.



Camp Wapo Registration

Priority registration ends on March 15th. Please be sure to go online soon and get registered for Summer Camp.

Students that have completed grades 1-3 are able to attend Seeds Weekend August 7-9.

Students that have completed Grades 4 and up can attend Youth Week August 2-7.

The link to register is:

<https://lwlbc.com/first-redwing>

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2020

Members Present: Elaine Ahern, John Laidlaw, Mary Weberg, Wendy Erickson, Cyd Mark, Joe Rice, Mark Jaeger, Matt Stinson, Bunny Kulstad, Jean Fjelsted. **Staff Present:** Pastor Arte Sharot.

Devotions and treats offered by John Laidlaw.

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Erickson, council president.

Agenda: MSC to present as accepted.

Secretary's Report: MSC to accept as presented minutes of 1/14 council meeting. MSC to accept as presented minutes of 1/26 annual meeting. MSC to accept as presented minutes of 1/26 council meeting. Delegates attending the Synod Assembly are Wendy Erickson, Dani Rice, Bernadette Galvin and Marshall Laidlaw.

Treasurer's Report: Aly reported that our finances are in good shape. The work of cleaning up journal entries has been successful. She discussed that they are currently working on deciphering and managing Amazon's somewhat confusing billing, but it's going well. MSC to accept treasurer's report as presented.

Staff Reports:

- Pastor Arte
- Tina
- Marilee
- MSC to accept staff reports as presented.

Ministry Team Reports:

-Worship and Music: -Jean reported the team discussed preparations for the upcoming Lent season. They would like to be able to offer coffee and treats between the Easter Sunday services (as was done last year) and are looking for ways to make this happen. Asking Joy in Doing volunteers is one idea.

-A special thank you to Bill Mackey, Al Smith and Scott Lappegard for the fabulous update to our music storage area. Jean will send them a thank you note.

- Pastor Arte reported that they plan to present a "Living Last Supper" for our Maundy Thursday service. Twelve soliloquies will be presented. Volunteers are needed to represent the 12 disciples.

Property: -Mark reported that bids for the West Ave entrance railing repair were close, with FAB1 Metalworks having the lowest bid at \$3,052. The bid was accepted and work will begin as soon as possible.

-The Hope Coalition parking signs are now in place.

-The church AC units were discussed with plans to begin work in the spring.

-Stucco repair costs and ideas are currently being researched.

Life and Growth: -Creating a new member packet and placing new members' pictures and short bios in the Spire were discussed.

-We will not be holding a Wine Tasting event this year. Kip Earney was unavailable and the costs were prohibitive.

-Bunny Kulstad will begin her Pan Fundraiser March 1st. 90% of the proceeds will be donated to our confirmation robe fund and the remaining 10% to be decided.

Stewardship: No Report

Youth and Family -There was a presentation by Kali Sharot on Mental Health and Anxiety during class time on 2/5/20. The presentation was for anyone 7th grade and up. It was well received and appreciated.

-John reported that 82 Super Bowl subs were sold resulting in a profit of \$650.

-On Wednesday, 2/19 there will be an "Everybody's Birthday" celebration (with cake!).

-Tina is planning a Good Friday retreat for the confirmation class. John reported that our confirmation class is small this year.

-Youth will be traveling to Indiana 7/10/2020-7/18/2020 for their service project. Future fund raising plans include Ash Wednesday & Palm Sunday luncheons.

Christian Action: -March is Food Share month with a planned focus on cereal. 3/14/20 donations will be focused on paper donations (specifically toilet paper).

- A trip to Feed My Starving Children is planned for Saturday, 3/21/20 with a 11am to 12:30pm time slot. Mary expects to have 25 volunteer positions available.

-The Red Wing Homeless Project's website is www.rwhopeandharbor.com. Sign up is available on the website, with overnight shift sign ups being the most needed.

Personnel: -The personnel committee made a recommendation for action regarding a church employee. Due to confidentiality concerns, the details will not be included in this report. The council MSC to accept the personnel committee's recommendation.

RIC: -There will be an informational meeting after the 2/23/20 church service. Marshall Laidlaw will introduce a film and Pastor Arte will lead an

informal discussion. This will be an informational discussion and no notes will be taken.

Old Business: -The up-coming Big Turn Music was briefly discussed. Wendy was asked to make an announcement at the church service this upcoming Sunday (2/16/20) regarding volunteer opportunities.

New Business: -Ideas were discussed for an AC fundraiser. Bunny suggested using the reverse of our "Raise the Roof" campaign and name it "Lower the Temperature"- using the same type of signage to show our progress.

The next regular church council meeting is scheduled for March 10th , 2020 with Wendy Erickson providing devotions and treats.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyd Mark

JANUARY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR January2020				
OPERATING INCOME	Jan Actual	Budgeted Jan	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
General Fund Pledges	33,767	32,917	33,767	32,917
Mission Support	80	63	80	63
Other Income	3,343	4,286	3,343	4,286
Total Income	37,190	37,266	37,190	37,266
OPERATING EXPENSES	Jan Actual	Budgeted Jan	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
General Operating Expenses	35,199	39,132	35,199	39,132
ELCA Benevolence	2,084	2,083	2,084	2,083
Other Outside Giving	1,325	1,324	1,325	1,324
Total Expenses	38,607	42,539	38,607	42,539
Income vs. Expenses	-\$1,418	-\$5,273	-\$1,418	-\$5,273
Beginning Cash Balance 1/1/20	\$ 119,267	Operating Fund Balance 1/1/20	\$ (258)	
Ending Cash Balance 1/31/20	\$ 124,960	Operating Fund Balance 1/31/2020	\$ 4,124	

MARCH "JOY IN DOING"

BREW CREW

- 1 Charles and Carol Charbonneau
- 8 Bill and Barb Raw
- 15 Dick and Nancy Houghton
- 22 Murph and Lois Berg
- 29 Clark and Jean Fjelsted

ACOLYTE AND CLEAN UP

- 1 Samuel Witts
- 8 Hayden Almsted
- 15 Eli Caves
- 22 Alison Hoover
- 29 Bryley Miller

SATURDAY ASSISTANT

- 7 Tricia Harris
- 14 Mike and Sue Heller
- 21 Gwen and Steve Kohner
- 28 Terry and Yo Baby Lohman

LECTOR

- 1 Bunny Kulstad
- 8 Jennifer Lohman
- 15 David Olson
- 22 Bill Raw
- 29 Kathleen Olson

GREETERS

- 1 David and Linda Olson
- 8 Larry and Fay Peterson
- 15 Todd and Trina Petterson
- 22 Bill and Barb Raw
- 29 Diane Ringeisen

USHERS

- Keith Larson (Chair)
- Clark & Jean Fjelsted
- Terry & Cindy Lohman
- Darrell & Barb Nelson
- Nancy Paasch
- Norm Wille
- Wendy Erickson

COFFEE HOSTS

- 1 Diane Ringeisen, Kay Schwartau
- 8 Ed and Rae Santelman
- 15 Carol Schwartau, Ellen Mackey
- 22 Al and Carol Smith
- 29 Michael Sorensen, Gloria Solsaa

COMMUNION

- 1 David and Kathleen Olson, Bunny Kulstad
- 8 Diane Ringeisen, Carol Smith, Gloria Solsaa
- 15 Cheri Roberts, Michael Sorensen, Mary Weberg
- 22 Wendy Ehlers, Wendy Erickson, Ellen Mackey
- 29 Arnold and Karen Strusz, Janet Erickson

TREATS

- 1 Diane Ringeisen, Kay Schwartau, Gerald and Louise Mewhorter, David and Linda Olson, Shirley Olson
- 8 Ed and Rae Santelman, Kristen Owens, Larry and Fay Peterson, Todd and Trina Petterson
- 15 Carol Schwartau, Ellen Mackey, Cheri Roberts, Tom and Cheryl Sasse
- 22 Al and Carol Smith, Renee Schlegelmilch, David and Jane Schwartau, Sandy Sharot
- 29 Michael Sorensen, Gloria Solsaa, Arlene Stromback, Arnold and Karen Strusz

THANK YOU

Dear Friends:

Red Wing **Golden K Kiwanis** thanks you for the piano which arrived at the Pottery Museum this past week. It sounded so much better than the one we have been using. We appreciate your generosity as well as the generosity of Richard Houghton and friends for delivering it and disposing of the ancient one. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Ardis Kyker
Secretary

Waffle Feed Thank You

Thank you...
to those who bought tickets and braved the weather to come and eat...
to the youth who helped serve...
and to all who helped make the waffle feed a success.
From,
The Cooking Club

Thank you to Pastor Arte and everyone in the kitchen who provided lunch and coffee. Thank you so much for everything.
The family of **Madeline Pearson**

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am Choir 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School	2 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	3 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons 4:00pm-7:00pm Team Meetings 4:30am Praise team	4 8:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Reset 4:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Ringers	5 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	6	7 5:30 pm Worship - Marilee Anderson plays
8 8:30am Ringers 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 7:00pm Women and Wine	9 7:00pm Scouts	10 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 7:00pm Scouts	11 8:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Reset 1:00pm Quilting 4:15pm Kids Rock 4:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Education 6:15pm Choir	12 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	13	14 5:30 pm Worship - Sue Heller plays
15 8:30am Praise Team 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School	16 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Scouts	17 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons 7:00pm Eve	18 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:30am Martha 10:00am Mary 4:15pm Kids Rock 4:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Ringers 6:15pm Education	19 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	20	21 5:30 pm Worship - Jean Fjelsted plays
22 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School 7:00pm Women and Wine	23 7:00pm Scouts	24 9:00am Spire Folding 10:00am Hospice 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons	25 8:30am Men's Bible Study 12:00pm Reset 1:00pm Quilting 4:15pm Kids Rock 4:30pm Dinner 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Education 6:15pm Choir	26 5:00pm Bells of the Bluffs	27	28 5:30 pm Worship - Marilee Anderson plays
29 8:30am Choir 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Church School	30 7:00pm Scouts	31 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Text Study 2:00pm Mindfulness 4:00pm Piano lessons				

First Lutheran Church

615 West 5th Street
Red Wing MN 55066
651.388.9311

Address Service Requested

MARCH 2020

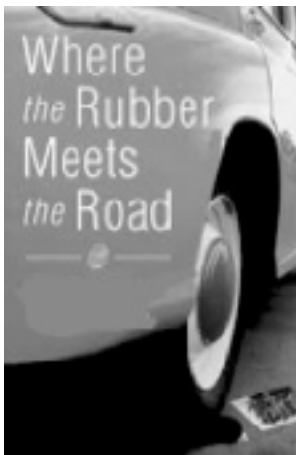
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55066

HAPPENINGS

LENT 2020

“Where the Rubber Meets the Road”

- 2/26 Ash Wednesday 11:00am and 6:30pm
“The Mission Field Outside Your Door” - Pr Arte
3/4 “Meeting Jesus” Pr Tim Ehling, First Lutheran L.C.
3/11 “Everything Is Spiritual” - Pr Arte
3/18 “Changing World” - Pr Justin Boeding, United
3/25 “Balance and Order” -Pr Dean Lundgren, Svea Lutheran
4/1 “Giving Our Time” - Pr Arte



This year we are staying at First Lutheran and the pastors are moving around. Dinner will begin at 4:30 and Holden Evening Prayer worship at 5:30. We look forward to going on this Lenten Journey with you.