

The First Word

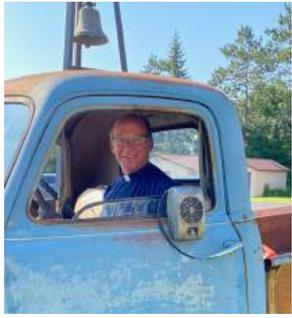
LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE
I CORINTHIANS 16:14

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First Lutheran Church
Hayward, Wisconsin



From the Pastor's Desk

Here's to NEW!

What a beguiling word NEW is. NEW is so full of excitement and promise. At deer hunting this year, I had new boots and new insulated coveralls, and I was in heaven. It didn't make me a better hunter, it didn't increase our success rate, but I sure felt good. With the promise of a NEW year, we wonder and hope for better things. It, of course, is biblical: Behold! I make all things NEW! That promise in REVELATION is to the Christians who endured the Roman atrocities, and the promise of a NEW world where Jesus reigns full of food and healing and dancing sounds very attractive. Many of us will try and become a NEW person with the NEW year, but this isn't the NEWness the Bible talks about. The NEWness the Bible talks about is not a selfish pursuit for a better body, but a pursuit for a NEW world in which people are finally humane, and anxiety and fear are gone.

Of course, knowing that sin and death have been eradicated does make NEW seem possible. People having the correct information is something that sets them free. Jesus didn't come for a NEW and radical departure from the covenant God made with the world - grace wasn't actually a NEW thing invented by Jesus. Jesus wanted us to see clearly that God has always been a God of grace and forgiveness and mercy - as the OLD Testament stories show again and again and again. Tyrants and bullies know this: they know that well and correctly informed people are empowered. Knowledge of grace and forgiveness, and love makes people greet every day as if it is NEW. Tyrants and bullies tell base lies and suppress the truth so that they can have power.

NEW, though, can be an illusion. Sometimes a NEW job, a NEW relationship, a NEW home, doesn't solve anything because we bring our OLD selves with us. Advertisers prey on us by telling us that this NEW product will make you a NEW you with very little work on your part - you can even pay for it later by using a credit card.

And sometimes NEW convinces us that OLD is bad. I like OLD recliners. I like OLD shoes. I treasure OLD friends. I love singing OLD hymns. Sometimes a visit with an OLD friend makes me feel brand NEW.

Maybe NEW is just a NEW perspective on what in life is valuable and important and what is fluff. Sometimes, the NEW fluff turns out to be the same OLD same OLD.

So my Christmas and NEW Year's Wishes for you are for faith and discernment and wisdom and intelligence and health and friendship and love. And may every day seem NEW.

In Christ,
Pastor Joel

Council Notes

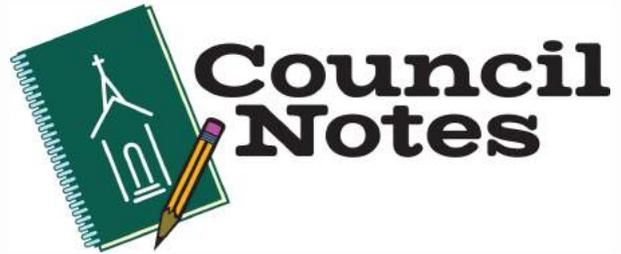
Let all that we do be done in love. 1 Corinthians 16:14

Happy New Year! Hopefully, 2021 finished out on a good note, and 2022 is starting on an even better note. Tiffany's last day was December 25th. We'd like to send thanks for her time at First Lutheran and wish her well with her studies and new adventures. The personnel committee has selected Tanya Ullom to fill both the office and finance positions. Please give her a warm welcome when she starts in mid-January. Be sure to check with the Pastor to see how you can volunteer during this transition time.

Due to volunteer leaders, the Arise program will be put on hold until next year. The 2022 preliminary budget has been set, so watch for dates where you can attend and ask questions before it is approved. The property committee is working on details for repaving the church lot, parsonage drive, and heat and updated electricity in the garage. This will be voted on at the January 30th annual meeting.

Reflect on all that God has given to you, and Rejoice in all that is to come.

Many Blessings, Randy Neumann, Church President.



Stewardship Message

“Don't Give 'til it hurts', rather 'give til it feels good”

Acronyms ~ Turn Seldom into Often

“Someone Else Likes Doing Our Ministries” becomes “Our Frequent Touch Erases Need.”

“Someone else” is getting weary. As most of you know, active, in-person participation at worship services has diminished appreciably, due mostly to the threat of COVID spread.

Our church has numerous safety protocols in place; therefore, we invite you to return to scheduled worship services and help with greeting, ushering, altar guild, choir, fellowship, and all the important contributions that support our church ministries. Your generosity in supporting First Lutheran has not gone unnoticed, and the Stewardship Committee thanks you so much for your continued support. However, we do miss your faces and presence.

Electronic giving is a great option if you can't be at worship placing your gifts in the offering plate. Please contact the church if this is an option you would like to pursue.

Lastly, we can touch and promote our ministries in so many ways, giving of our time and talents, our resources, and just generally supporting one another. Together, we can help erase the need that surrounds all of us. Small contributions from many results in: “we” are doing the most good, not “Someone Else.”

In Christ, Your Stewardship Committee,
Jeff Hubbard, Bruce Schmidt, Ron Kirchdoerfer, Pastor Joel Bacon

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Semi-Annual Budget Meeting

Sunday, January 30th following the 10 am worship service.

Budget Hearings:

Wednesday, January 19th at 4 pm

+

Sunday, January 23rd after the 10 am service

Voting Items:

MIF Loan

2022 Budget

Worship Times

A 50-member quorum is needed. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Reminder--ALL confirmed members (youth - adults) are eligible to attend. High School students--this is you too!



Operation Christmas Thank You!

Thank you to the entire congregations of First Lutheran, United Methodist, and the Ascension Episcopal Church for their wonderful responses to the 2021 Operation Christmas. You provided Christmas to 220 area families in need: food baskets, pies, candy, fruit, hamburger, a ham, potatoes, and carrots were distributed; along with gifts to over 400 children. Along with hats and mittens for area schools to distribute to children as needed and holiday cheer with cookies for area shut-ins. In reflection, I, along with many others, have a renewed faith in people and God. We are all a blessing from God, and Operation Christmas allowed us to provide a blessing to others through our faith.

I would also like to thank:

- All who made generous donations to purchase food.
- The tree takers who purchased and wrapped gifts for children.
- Volunteers, who took the phone calls, packed the boxes, wrapped and coordinated the gift distribution, unloaded the food truck, worked on distribution, and coordinated and tracked requests along with mailing confirmations. An army of volunteers made this operation work. Thank you! Thank you!
- Jerry Bechard for the wonderful pies from Norske Nook
- Salvation Army for meat vouchers. Linda Graham - Hamburger
- Kwik Trip, Walmart, Marketplace, Thrivent, H&R Block, Hayward Lions, Miller Timber Harvesting, Barns Community Church, and 1st Lutheran Memorial & Endowment Fund, for their contributions.
- First Lutheran men and youth groups who helped make a difference.
- The staff of First Lutheran who assisted us every step of the way.

A huge thank you to everyone who included this Outreach Project in their prayers, brought gifts, made donations, brought mittens and hats, and baked cookies.

Because of this congregation, United Methodist Church, and Ascension Episcopal Church, 220 families in our community experienced Christ's love this Christmas. We are small, but we are powerful with God.

Blessings,
Kathy McCoy



Cookies for Shut-Ins: 2021

I want to thank all those who baked cookies for the Shut-ins. You are all so faithful to this Christmas gift to them. It is so appreciated by them, and it is our way of saying, "*You are remembered this Christmas.*" The boxes looked pretty with all the varieties.

God bless you and your kindness.

Linda Gordon and Operation Christmas



Notes of THANKS

The Neff's & Scout Troop 350 would like to thank our family at First for so generously supporting our Troop! We hope you enjoy your Christmas Wreaths and have a blessed Christmas.

Thank you, Eric Neff

The Altar Guild and Congregation would like to give a special thank you to Gwen Mickelson for the beautiful Hardanger communion paraments.

Check them out during worship if you haven't seen them yet.



Thanks from the staff!

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR ALL THE DELICIOUS TREATS, WARM WORDS, AND GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS. WE ARE BLESSED TO WORK FOR A LOVING AND CARING CONGREGATION.

THANK YOU~

PASTOR JOEL, TIFFANY CHIPMAN, RAY AUSTIN, PATTY VANLANDSCHOOT, BECKY IVERSON

To a wonderful congregation and great co-workers:

I am forever grateful for the experience working at First Lutheran Church. It was not easy to say farewell. Thank you all for the last 6 years. I am blessed to call First Lutheran my home church.

Blessings to all ~ Tiffany Chipman



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of Vi Jacobson. Her memories will remain within us forever.

Vi's funeral service is Sunday, January 16th.
More details to follow.

Our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of John Bihun.

No memorial or funeral arrangements are made yet.

Memorial & Endowment Notes:



*Plant your seeds now and trust in the Lord that
These seeds will bear fruit even when you are gone.*



THE POWER OF THE ENDOWMENT - First Lutheran Endowment Fund

Supporting our endowment fund is one of the best ways you can ensure that our church's mission and vision will thrive for years to come.

Gifts given in the last 10 years total over \$75,500. Some examples of recent giving:

Community Scholarships

- Luther College
- Campers for National Youth Gathering & Luther Park
- Candidacy and Seminary Books
- Lay Ministry

Educational

- Sherman & Ruth Weiss Community Library

Greater Church

- NW Synod Malawi Relief Fund
- Childvoice International
- Lutheran World Relief
- Synod Resource Center

Social Concerns

- Northwoods Community Food Shelf
- Birchwood Food Shelf
- Harvest of Friends Food Shelf Winter
- Northwoods New Life Resource Center
- Senior Resource Center Bus Fund
- Hayward Community Food Shelf
- Regional Hospice
- Operation Christmas
- ALS Association
- Greater Hayward House of Hope
- Elizabeth Home of Hope

The next Memorial and Endowment meeting is Wednesday, February 9th. If you have a request for consideration, please submit a written request to one of the committee members by Wednesday, January 26th.

In God's name,
Sherry Beckman

AN EVANGELICAL MINUTE Our Sure & Sacred Remedy

Our lives are quite something, filled with a series of experiences, some positive and some not nearly so. We feel myriads of motions. Sometimes seems like just plain "too much to handle."

It's a time like this when we are so fortunate to have our God to turn to in prayer. We remember that He waits to hear from us. We're grateful that He understands when "we don't have it all together." Indeed, God's love is there for us now amidst our worries, fears, and concerns at a time like this and always.

Let's explore another situation. There may be a time when we know better; but, we just don't seem to do better. Our actions do not necessarily deserve the goodness of God, and yet because we know that relationship with Him, that goodness is still available to us. Ideally, He's not keeping a scorecard to determine how much love or hope we deserve. It's always available to us. Not because of how we ask, but just because of who God is.

These are just a few of the situations of our lives. Loving, living, holy God, we thank you always for your ever-present love for us. Let us never forget ways in which we can be of use during our days. When life's burdens bow us down, may we be lifted up by your love and look to share it with others.

In Christ,
Amen

FAITH, FELLOWSHIP & FUN

Bike/Hike/Ski Club



The group will meet every Monday.

It is time for skiing. The group meets at random locations at 5 pm. Please contact Jim Schreiber.

TABLE TALK

Tuesday, January 11th @ 6:30 pm

Where: First Lutheran Church - Fellowship Hall

Topic: Why Does Grace Enrage Religious People?

Potluck dinner starts at 6:30. Discussion to follow (about 7:15)



Light the Night for a Cure



Join us to cross country ski and/or snowshoe a lit trail!

We encourage social distancing during this event.
Updates will be posted on our website:
www.relayforlife.org/sawyercountywi

Sponsored by



Purls of Prayer

- Saturday, January 15 @ 9:30am
- Location: Library
- Are you interested in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls or for charity?
- Join us each month; no experience is needed. We can provide all supplies and instructions.

When: Sunday, February 6th
Where: OO Trailhead, Hayward, WI
Time: 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Join us for:

- Hot cocoa and a snack
- Lit ski loop and snowshoe trail
- Luminaria loop for prayer/reflection
- Bonfire
- Fun night out!

Pre-registration strongly encouraged
Although accepted in person at the event.

NAME: _____

\$10 donation per person to attend
+ \$10 for each luminaria.

Payment to "American Cancer Society".
Drop donation and form off at First Lutheran Church in Hayward or register on-line at www.relayforlife.org/sawyercountywi
Click **Donate**, select **Light the Night**.
Also order luminaria online with the link provided.

I hereby release the sponsoring organizations, its members or agents and any person officially connected with this event from all liability for any injury or damages.



Card Ladies

The Card Ladies will not meet in January.

Thank you everyone for all the purchased Christmas Card.

CHILDREN + YOUTH MINISTRIES

Arise:

The Arise Group (K-5th Grade) will not resume meeting on Wednesdays after school in January. First Lutheran Church hopes to bring this group back in the fall of 2022.

Ms. Tiffany will be missed, and we are hopeful to find a new children's leadership team soon. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

CrossWays:

CrossWays (Middle School youth: 6th - 8th Grade) will resume class and group time on Wednesday, January 5th at 7 pm. Students should bring their Bibles.

Pastor Joel will continue the lessons of Luther's Small Catechism and our Lutheran faith.

Oasis:

Oasis (High School youth: 9th -12th Grade) will resume on Wednesday, January 5th at 7 pm.

Wednesday evening youth groups need help supplying light meals/snacks for the middle school and high school students. There is a sign-up list on the Welcome Center. Besides providing the food, it would be helpful for helpers to cook, serve, and clean up. The meal/snack starts off their night (7 pm). If you can help, please sign-up.

Let's shower our college students!!!!

College Care Packages will ship out to our 17 college students on Monday, February 7th (in time to share some love on Valentine's).

Congregation: can you help by donating some snacks? We need individually wrapped snacks for 17 boxes. Some suggestions are:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Granola Bars | Fruit Snacks |
| Pop-Tarts | Popcorn |
| Ramen Noodles | Nuts/Seeds |
| Candy | Beef Jerky |
| Water flavor sticks | Hot Chocolate Packets |
| Crackers | Homemade Cookies |
| Chips | Mug Dessert Packets |
| Chex Mix | And more |



Please drop off all donations at the church by Wednesday, January 26th.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2022

Gathering Dates: July 24-28, 2022

GATHERING BIBLE STUDY:

JANUARY'S BIBLE STUDY IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19TH AT 8 PM.

THESE STUDIES ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO BUILD GROUP RELATIONSHIPS, CONNECTIONS, AND LEARNING. AS WE MEET EACH MONTH, THE PARTICIPATES AND LEADERS BUILD THE TOOLS FOR A SAFE AND HEALTHY TRIP.

PARENTS, PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY--ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT YOUR PARTICIPANT!



Super Bowl Take-N-Bake Pizza Sale

January 2- 23, 2022



Order form below. Place your order (with payment) between January 2nd and 23rd for your Super Bowl Sunday snack/meal! Pizza distribution is Sunday, February 13, 2022 between 9 am and 12 pm.

14" CHEESE PIZZA..... \$12.00 Qty: _____
14" SAUSAGE PIZZA..... \$14.00 Qty: _____
14" PEPPERONI PIZZA..... \$14.00 Qty: _____
14" SAUSAGE/PEPPERONI.. \$16.00 Qty: _____

Total Pizzas: _____ Total Price: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Paid: Cash or Check (circle one)

Pizzas will be ready for pick up Sunday, Feb. 13th between 9 am-12 pm. Pickup in the First Lutheran Church Kitchen. All proceeds go to FLC Youth attending the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering.

All order forms and payments should be placed in a sealed envelope and dropped into the "DropBox" on the wall outside of the Church Office.



Women of First Lutheran

Happy New Year,

We always decide to make resolutions or a new start when the new year rolls around. We want to start with a clean slate or a new plan. We want an Epiphany in our lives as Mathew tells of the wise men following the star seeking something new. We want to lose weight, exercise, get more fit, and eat wiser. Jesus knows our needs and wants us healthy, all good things, but I have been thinking about our inner bodies as Christians. Are our minds engaged in learning, our eyes seeing the needs around us, our hearts filled with compassion, our hands doing for others, and our feet walking in the light of Epiphany "as the wise men of old" seeking the Savior?

Jeremiah 29:11-12 says, *"I know the plans I have for you says the Lord, plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you."* He equips us with a future and hope, so we can begin this New Year with Christ walking beside us. And in turn, we can be His disciples. May your New Year be blessed with new beginnings. With your mind on Jesus, your hearts filled with His love, your hands busy with His work, and your feet walking His ways.

I will leave you with this verse from Lamentations 3:22-23

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, Great is His Faithfulness. Each day is a new beginning."

God Bless your new New Year with Joy and Happiness.

Linda Gordon FLCW President

January plans and updates:

The first request I would like to make is for you to attend an important meeting on Tuesday, January 25th, 2022, at 4:30 pm. We will have our First Lutheran Church Women's general meeting. It is important as we will be voting on our Love Gifts and how we should distribute them. We have been blessed with a generous profit from the Scandinavian Dinner. Your input is vital as we distribute. The second is the election of new officers. We would like you to submit willing names to fill the rolls of the offices now held by the president, secretary, and treasurer. The floor will be open for nominations. I would like to see the support of our FLCW members.

Koinonia will meet each Tuesday at 8 am in the Church Library.

They are watching a DVD, "The New Testament," followed by an interesting discussion. This group of women welcomes you to join them. Their leader is Linda Euneau; you can contact her by calling 715-634-3498.

Jubilee Circle meets on the third Tuesday, January 18th, at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

They will be continuing the DVD series on "Women of the Bible." Rhonda Passolt leads this fellowship of women; you can contact her by calling 715-563-2502. Thank You to your circle members for ringing the bells for the Salvation Army a very generous thing to do.

Peace Circle meets on the second Tuesday, January 11th, at 9:45 am

Leader Carol Schmidt, Hostess Pat Olson

Thank you to your circle members for Giving \$220 to ELCA "Good Gifts" Honeybees Fund to help pollinate vegetable gardens for those in impoverished communities.

Faith Hope & Love meets on the second Tuesday, January 11th, at 1:30 pm

Leader Linda Gordon, Hostess Carol Nelson

Both peace and faith hope and love circles will be meeting in the Library or Fellowship Hall depending on the numbers attending. We will be beginning a new four-session study from the Gather Magazine on "The Kingdom of God" written by Mark Allen Powell. Together we will look at Jesus, teaching on the Kingdom of God, a present and future reality, His parables, and other scriptures about the present, the future, and eternal life. If you enjoy the Gather studies and opening your Bible and meeting together in fellowship, these groups are for you, and all are welcome mornings or afternoons.

A special thank You for all the cookies baked for the Shut-ins. I know I can always count on you. Thank you so much. Christmas is a busy time, but these folk appreciate our remembering them.

The Love of Our Altar

Eternal Candle Sponsors for January

Will & Sandy Ferris

In memory of John Wittmus (for December)

In memory of Jeff Gewedik

Carol Knudson

In memory of Troy Morgan

*Please sign up on the Eternal Flame clipboard if you wish to be a sponsor.
Please drop the sponsor funds and information in the dropbox outside of the office door when you sign up.*

There is room for more Eternal Candle Sponsors; please sign up and let the office know. Thank you!!!

January Communion Bread Bakers:

January 1/2:

Patty VanLandschoot

January 8/9:

Sandy Ferris

January 15/16:

Pam Swanson

January 22/23:

Nancy Woodbeck

January 29/30:

Jean Purtell



ALTAR GUILD

January Altar Guild Schedule:

	<u>Sat. 9am</u>	<u>Sat. 5pm</u>	<u>Sun. 8am</u>	<u>Sun. 10am</u>
January 1/2:	Nancy Woodbeck	Amy McDonald	Paul Gaida	Nancy Woodbeck
January 8/9:	Barb Jacobsen	Barb Jacobsen	Linda Graham	Patti Stone
January 15/16:	Pat Olson	Pat Olson	Kay Sieh	Sue Reinardy
January 22/23:	Pat Olson	Amy McDonald	Linda Graham	Patti Stone
January 29/30:	Pam Swanson	Liz Dokkestul	Karen Giese	Sue Reinardy



New Year's Day

There is no worship service on Saturday, January 1, 2022. Enjoy the first day of the new year and see everyone on Sunday, January 2nd at 8 am and 10 am.

~Pastor Joel

Music Ministry.

Voice Choir:

Worships Schedule:

Sunday, January 9th at 8 am

Sunday, January 16th at 10 am

Sunday, January 30th at 10 am

Rehearsals: Every Wednesday at 6:05 pm in Room 4.

The Spirit Within

Worship Schedule:

Sunday, January 9th at 10 am

Sunday, January 23rd at 10 am

Practices every Thursday at 6 pm.

Chime Choir:

Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5:15 pm - 5:55 pm.



Handchimes



Lectionary Readings

January 2, 2022: Second Sunday of Christmas

Preface: Christmas Color: White

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Alleluia. (Ps. 98:3)

Readings and Psalm:

Jeremiah 31:7-14 (Joy at the gathering of God's scattered flock)

Psalm 147:12-20 (Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12))

Ephesians 1:3-14 (The will of God made known in Christ)

John 1:[1-9] 10-18 (God with us: the incarnation of the Word)

January 9, 2022: Baptism of Our Lord

Preface: Baptism of Our Lord Color: White

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Alleluia. (Matt. 3:17)

Readings and Psalm:

Isaiah 43:1-7 (When you pass through the waters, do not fear, for I am with you)

Psalm 29 (The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3))

Acts 8:14-17 (Prayer and laying on of hands for the Holy Spirit)

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (The baptism of Jesus with the descent of the Holy Spirit)

January 16, 2022: Second Sunday of Epiphany

Preface: Epiphany Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. Alleluia. (John 2:11)

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 62:1-5 (As bridegroom and bride rejoice, so shall God rejoice over you)

Psalm 36:5-10 (We feast upon the abundance of your house, O Lord. (Ps. 36:8))

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (There are a variety of gifts but the same Spirit)

John 2:1-11 (The wedding at Cana)

January 23, 2022: Third Sunday of Epiphany

Preface: Epiphany Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives. Alleluia. (Luke 4:18)

Readings and Psalm

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (Ezra reads the law of Moses before the people)

Psalm 19 (The teaching of the Lord revives the soul. (Ps. 19:7))

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (You are the body of Christ)

Luke 4:14-21 (Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah)

January 30, 2022: Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Preface: Epiphany Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. You shall go to all to whom I send you. Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Alleluia. (Jer. 1:7,8)

Readings and Psalm

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (I appointed you a prophet to the nations)

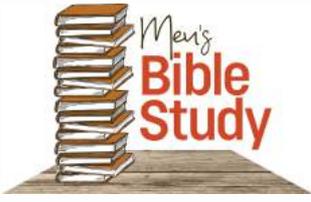
Psalm 71:1-6 (From my mother's womb you have been my strength. (Ps. 71:6))

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (If I speak without love, I am a noisy gong)

Luke 4:21-30 (Jesus says a prophet is not accepted in his hometown)



BIBLE STUDY GROUPS



Men's Bible Study
Every Tuesday at 8 am in Fellowship Hall.
Snacks and beverages are provided.
All men are welcome.



Koinonia: A fellowship and community of women.
Topic: "The New Testament" by Professor Bart D. Ehrman, UNC Chapel Hill
Every Tuesday at 8 am in Library.
Bible studies ~ Conversations ~ Connections
All women are welcome.



Adult Faith Forum
Every Sunday
9:15 am-9:55 am - Fellowship Hall
All are welcome. This year's study will be the scripture readings for the
upcoming week's worship.



Online Bible Studies are available via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. We meet Tuesday nights at 7pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am. Both studies are **different**. Engage in both! Exploring the Bible in a fun and laid back way. All are welcome. Both studies are led by Pastor Joel and have fantastic discussions.

Tuesday Evening (7pm): Zoom link: [Click Here to Join](#)

Wednesday Mornings (10am): Zoom link: [Click Here to Join](#)



Jubilee Circle will continue with its DVD series Women of the Bible in January. Jubilee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. January we will be meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. All are welcome - bring your own beverage.

If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Passolt at 715-563-2502 or 715-634-1062 or email Rhonda at passolt0826@yahoo.com.



Peace Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 11th at 9:45 am
Leader: Carol Schmidt Hostess: Pat Olson
We will study a new four-session study from the Gather Magazine on "The Kingdom of God" written by Mark Allen Powell.



Faith, Hope, & Love Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 11th at 1:30 pm
Leader: Linda Gordon Hostess: Carol Nelson
We will study a new four-session study from the Gather Magazine on "The Kingdom of God" written by Mark Allen Powell.

Wednesday Night Supper



A community meal is served in Fellowship Hall or takeout at First Lutheran Church every Wednesday evening at 5:00 pm.

The meal is free of charge, or if you wish, you may make a free-will donation. The meals are nutritious and are prepared and served by volunteers from the Church congregation and volunteers within the community.

If you wish to help in this important ministry, please look at the sign-up sheets hanging at the Welcome Center. See who is in charge for the month and give them a call or sign-up to help.

Monthly Overseer:

Cheryl Treland
Thank you!!!

December Weekly Meal Sponsors:

December 1:	Beckman & Kirchdoerfer
December 8:	Schreiber's & Friends
December 15:	Hayward Lions
December 22:	Cheryl Treland
December 29:	Cheryl Treland

Chairperson Note

Wednesday Night Supper monthly leaders needed. We have some wonderful people leading each month to ensure each week's meals are covered and running smoothly, but things have changed in their lives, and they no longer can do it. So, we are looking for new monthly leaders for October and November. There are some other openings also.

Are you wondering what you can do? Join our team and learn about the meals and how easy it is to volunteer to help with the meals or oversee a month. We are still doing carry-outs for around 70 meals every Wednesday. Don't wait for a call asking you to help; step forward and give your name to the church office or call Betty Beckman.

If you never served a meal, please ask the person in charge of the month to help and learn about doing it. (This is posted at the Welcoming Center in the Narthex). The more hands we have, the easier the task is. Thanks again to all who have helped serve the Wednesday night meal for over 25+ years. First Lutheran – Faith in Action – become part of the team.

Betty Beckman
Community Supper Chair

Website Wanderings

Check out our First Lutheran Church Website at: <http://www.firstlutheranhaywardwi.org>

Giving Options:

We have several online ways to contribute to First Lutheran Church ministries.

Online Giving at
<https://onrealm.org/FirstLutheranCh49566/give/now>

Text Giving is now available!
Text: FLC54843 to
73256



A link will be provided. Click the link to be directed to the online giving.

Automatic withdrawal from your banking account. You may set the amount of your contribution, the date, the frequency. Contact the office for more information.



<https://www.facebook.com/pg/firstlutheranhaywardwi/about>



"Day 1" Radio Ministry



"Day 1", a voice of mainline Christian Churches, presents messages by clergy representing mainline Christian faiths, including those of the ELCA. Peter Wallace, host for each broadcast, facilitates discussion with clergy on timely topics. This radio ministry reaches our shut-ins, visitors to the area, and others for whom regular worship and Church affiliation are not a part of their daily lives. The cost per broadcast is \$30. We have First Lutheran members sponsor the "Day 1" weekly segments on radio station WRLS-FM (92.3). These segments air at 8:30am every Sunday. The sponsorship of a broadcast may be in honor of a person, or special occasion, or in memory of a loved one and is open to all.

Day 1 Sponsors:

December 12 in memory of Don Harms by Judy and Family

December 26 in memory of Doug Wikum and Bill and Diane Weinstock by Jane and Family



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

We are a Church that is deeply rooted—and always being made new.

If anyone is in Christ...

We are deeply rooted. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is still comparatively new as a Church body, and yet our roots are much deeper than our 25 years together. The taproot of our life extends through the histories of predecessor Churches in the United States, through the formative witness of the 16th century evangelical reformers and their confessional writings, to the Scriptures and the word of Christ. Our life is in Jesus Christ. We are deeply rooted in his word of forgiveness and the promises of God's steadfast love and mercy. The word of Christ dwells in us richly. God nourishes us as one body in Jesus Christ with companions from around the globe who meet us at Christ's table of grace.

...there is a new creation

We are being made new every day. In Jesus Christ we are not unchanged. What God does in Christ is as radical as the death and resurrection of baptism, where new creatures in Christ rise to live "no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them." God is bringing that new creation to life among us in the ministry of reconciliation. In that service we no longer see each other as we did before. We are no longer strangers, competitors or enemies to each other. We are beloved companions in one body, restored to a communion where the rich diversity of our experiences, wisdom and abilities serve the common good in Christ. The new creation in Christ rises to life among us every day.

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

8:30—4:00

Friday

8:30—12:00

Weekly Bulletin:

If you would like to submit information for the weekly bulletin, it is due to the church office by **4:00pm each Tuesday**

First Word:

ALL ARTICLES for the First Word newsletter are to be sent to church office by **4:00pm on January 15th for the Febuary First Word**

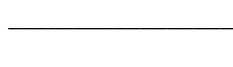


Phone: 715-634-2141
Mail: P.O. Box 346
Hayward, WI 54843



First Lutheran Staff

Joel Bacon



Ray Austin

Patty Van Landschoot

Rebecca Iverson

Pastor

Business Manager

Office Administrator

Building and Grounds

Choir Director

Organist

pastorjoel@firstlutheranhaywardwi.net

ray@firstlutheranhaywardwi.net

davidjv@centurytel.net

beckyjiverson@charter.net

Our Caring Prayers:

Care Centers:

Aspen Acres
10214 Rock Creek Rd
Hayward, WI 54843

- *Irene Ahrenkiel*
- *Dorothy Hedman*
- *Sharron Probyn*
- *Darel Roinstad*

Care Partners Assisted Living
15497 Pinewood Drive
Hayward, WI 54843

Hayward Health Center
10775 Nyman Avenue
Hayward, WI 54843

- *Liz Webber*
- *Janis Bergum*

Country Terrace
10260 White Birch Lane
Hayward, WI 54843

Water's Edge
11044 N State Rd 77
Hayward, WI 54843

Care Center:

- *Irene Byerly*
- *Ralph and Carol Cornell*
- *Colleen Moreland*

Assisted Living:

- *Clare Jacobson*
- *Karen Luebke*
- *Dennis Marquardt*
- *Gene Nelson*
- *Foyce Zaspel*
- *Henry Aukee*
- *Palmer and Fern McCoy*

Please Pray For:

Mary Beaver
John Schuenzel
Phil Pierce
Rosalie Schreiber
Keith Schuman
John Poppe
Will Wege
Foyce Zaspel
Jo Dahlin



Chronic & Long-term Illness:

John Jaeckel *Anna Suzan*
Don Sheehan *Dawn Saxum*



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF COFFEE

LWR coffee is available for purchase

- Coffee choices include:*
- Dark Roast - Whole Bean
 - Dark Roast - Ground
 - Medium Roast - Whole Bean
 - Medium Roast - Ground
 - Decaffeinated - Ground

Stop by First Lutheran for your coffee fix...anytime during office hours

Our Deepest Sympathies

Florence I. (Vallem) Bilderback

April 11, 1934 ~ December 1, 2021 (age 87)

Florence Ione Bilderback, age 87, from Hayward, WI, passed away on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, due to natural causes. Florence was born on April 11, 1934, the youngest of five children born to Arthur and Ruth Vallem. She grew up on the family farm where Walmart sits today.



As a child Flo earned money picking green beans and digging and selling worms to fishermen. She attended Wheeler School, participated in 4H and did beekeeping with her mother. In high school, Flo played the trombone, sang in the choir, was a cheerleader, was involved in homecomings and proms and worked at the Hayward Dairy Company.

After graduating from Hayward High School in 1952, Flo headed to California, working 30 years in Los Angeles for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (known today as AT&T) in middle management at their Training Center. While there she met and married James F. Bilderback. She retired in 1983.

After retirement in California, Flo and Jim moved to Hayward (1983-1994) where they owned and operated Hayward Lock & Key. Not being fans of the cold northern Wisconsin weather, they moved to Nevada and spent 22 years enjoying milder temperatures, the casinos, and spending time outdoors. One year Flo walked a total of 660 miles. Flo and Jim were married 44 years until his death in 2013. When her brother Arvid was diagnosed with cancer in 2016, she moved back to Hayward to be with him.

Flo was a member of First Lutheran Church, Daughters of Norway and the Hayward Lioness Club. She enjoyed monthly lunches with her high school classmates, attending the annual Scandinavian Meal at church, keeping track of the political scene on TV daily, and enjoying local Friday night fish fries. She was proud of her Norwegian heritage and collected many Bunad statues from Norway.

Flo recently resided at Aspen Acres, for one month, after a fall which broke her leg. Special thanks to all the people who cared for her there.

Preceding Florence in death were her parents, husband Jim, siblings and their spouses Arvid and Elaine Vallem, Raymond and Edith Vallem, Stuart and Naomi Vallem, and Melvin (Bertha) Swan.

She is survived by her sister Bertha Swan, nieces and nephews; Robert, Jim, Connie and Cory, Elaine, Paul, Irene and Judy, Brad and Doug, Dale and DuWayne, and their families; step children Lauri, Terri and George; and many friends from her Queen Maude group and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Carson City, Nevada.

Flo's family would like to thank friends Steve and Catherine, Al and Gloria, Julie and Jeanette for their help and care over the past years. Special thanks to the Essentia Health and Hayward Area Memorial Hospital professionals and Mike Bratley and staff at the Hayward Funeral Home for their kindnesses during a difficult time.

Per Flo's wishes, no services will be held. A Celebration of Life dessert and drink bar will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022, from 2-4 pm at the Hayward Veteran's Center on Main Street. If desired, memorials in Flo's name can be given to First Lutheran Church of Hayward.

Flo's ashes will be laid to rest next to her husband Jim and her parents Arthur and Ruth Vallem at the Greenwood Cemetery in Hayward.

Flo will be remembered for her bright blue eyes, beautiful silver hair, big smile, pink lipstick and saying Tusen Takk (thousand thanks). She lived a long and happy life, and will be dearly missed by those who crossed her path during her lifetime. Please join us at the Veteran's Center to celebrate and remember her.



Gavin Abric
 Janeen Abric
 Anya Bacon
 Bill Bates
 Joey Bergschnieder
 Walter Berquist
 Sadie Chipman
 Krista Christenson
 Kevin Clifford
 Lori Clifford
 Liz Dokkestul
 Kay Edwards
 Victor Enk
 Chris Fredrickson
 Joseph Froemel
 Tim Gardner
 Linda Swanson
 Pamela Swanson
 Harold Treland
 Darrel Vitcenda
 Susan Vortanz

Donna Gilbertson
 Dick Gillis
 John Hawksford
 Gayle Huseh
 Anne Husa
 Bonnie Jacobsen
 Julie Jolivette
 Bob Kirk
 Kym Kirk
 Betz Latsch
 Curtiss Lein
 Delores Lein
 Joe Olson
 Karen Peters
 Gib Purtell
 Arden Rasmussen
 Madeline Saporito
 Joel Saxum
 Haley St. Catherine
 Jane Wikum

Mark & Sherry Beckman
 Rod & Kay Edwards
 Ronald & Darlene Kirchdoerfer
 Brett & Kelly Poppe
 Harold & Janet Treland



Each month we take a moment to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of our friends at First Lutheran. Let's take this time to pray for joyful birthdays and anniversaries. Please do not call the office for actual dates or ages.

2022 January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	Dec 31	1
2 Super Bowl Pizza Sales Start 8am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10am Worship	3 7:30am Online Devotion 1:30pm Bluestocking Book Club 5pm Bike/Hike/Ski Club	4 7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 9:30am Music & Worship 11am Staff Meeting 1pm Text Study-Pastor 7pm Zoom Bible Study	5 7:30am Online Devotion 8:45am GHAMA - Pastor 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:15pm Chimes Practice 6:05pm Choir 7pm Cross Way (6th-8th) 7pm Oasis (9th-12th)	6 7:30am Online Devotion 9:45am Aspen Acres Communion 10:30am Hayward Health Communion 11:15am Water's Edge Communion 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	7 7:30am Online Devotion	8 5pm Worship
9 8am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10am Worship	10 7:30am Online Devotion 5pm Bike/Hike/Ski Club 5pm CC Exec 5:30pm Council Meeting	11 7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 9:45am Peace Circle 11am Staff Meeting 1pm Text Study-Pastor 1:30pm Faith, Hope & Love Circle 6:30pm Table Talk	12 7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:15pm Chimes Practice 6:05pm Choir 7pm Cross Way (6th-8th) 7pm Oasis (9th-12th)	13 7:30am Online Devotion 9am Cover Girls 1pm Grief Support Monthly 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	14 7:30am Online Devotion 1pm Pages for Paws	15 9:30am Park of Prayer 5pm Worship
16 8am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10am Worship	17 7:30am Online Devotion 5pm Bike/Hike/Ski Club	18 7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 11am Staff Meeting 1pm Text Study-Pastor 6pm Jubilee Circle 7pm Zoom Bible Study	19 7:30am Online Devotion 8:45am GHAMA-Pastor 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:15pm Chimes Practice 6:05pm Choir 7pm Cross Way (6th-8th) 7pm Oasis (9th-12th) 8pm Youth Gathering Bible Study	20 7:30am Online Devotion 9am Cover Girls 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	21 7:30am Online Devotion	22 5pm Worship
23 Super Bowl Pizza Sales End 8am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10am Worship	24 7:30am Online Devotion 5pm Bike/Hike/Ski Club	25 7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 11am Staff Meeting 1pm Text Study-Pastor 7pm Zoom Bible Study	26 7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:15pm Chimes Practice 6:05pm Choir 7pm Cross Way (6th-8th) 7pm Oasis (9th-12th)	27 7:30am Online Devotion 8:30am Many Hands Day 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	28 7:30am Online Devotion	29 5pm Worship
30 8am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10am Worship	31 7:30am Online Devotion 5pm Bike/Hike/Ski Club	Notes				

Worship With Us!
Saturdays: 5 pm
Sundays: 8am* & 10am
***Live on Facebook**
Everyone is Welcome!

10680 Main Street
Hayward, Wisconsin
715-634-2141
www.firstlutheranhaywardwi.org



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 346
Hayward, Wisconsin 54843
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