

First Things First

January 2010

Newsletter of :
First Lutheran Church, 120 5th Avenue NW, Minot, ND 58703

(701) 852-4853
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Gather in Faith - Grow thru Grace - Share the Good News of Jesus Christ!

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

1 Corinthians 12: 12-14,27

In a church this size it is easy to belong. It is easy to come to worship—convenient with Saturday night and two different times on Sunday morning to choose from. It is easy to come to worship and go home again week in and week out without really being connected to the congregation. It is easy to remain detached, to not really engage with others. It is easy to just belong.

But God calls us to live together as brothers and sisters in Christ in a way that we really BELONG to First Lutheran Church, to our church that is the Body of Christ. God calls us to live together in a way that we really are members of the same Body. We are the Body of Christ; we can't get along without the rest of the Body! As we live together as the Body of Christ we are called to involve ourselves in the life of the congregation so that we grow in relationship with each other. God calls us to live together as a congregation in a way that we encourage each other to grow in faith and to learn about how God has gifted each one of us as individual members of the Body to go out into the world and be the presence of the love and mercy and grace he has for the world through Jesus Christ.

So what does it look like to BELONG to each other, to be a family and interact with each other as brothers and sisters in Christ? What does it look like to really be the Body of Christ? First and foremost, we need to know each other! God has given us to each other.

- ◆ When we are gathering for worship we should take the opportunity to visit with those around us, asking about who they are, what they do, what they think, what they like... It is okay, good even, to risk the chance that the people we are visiting with and learning about are not visitors or new comers, but (gasp) fellow members whom we just don't happen to know well yet.
- ◆ We should not be segregated by age or by activity. It is good to have age specific activities and classes such as

Sunday School, Wednesday School, Confirmation and Adult Forum. But it is not good for those different classes to never intersect or be given the opportunity to interact with each other! One of the reasons I am so excited about the possibility of the building project and the gathering space that would result is that there would no longer be such a complete disconnect between our Sunday morning activities. As it is now, kids can come to class and never have any interaction with an adult other than their teacher. Remember that no matter what our age, we belong to each other. Not just one but many adults as mentors in faith are *necessary* to grow our children in faith. We adults should be seeking out children and young people. Find out their names. Find out who they are. Get to know them. Ask them about school or sports or anything! Learn what they are good at and help them to see that as a gift that God has given them. Talk about how you see God present in your life & in theirs!

- ◆ We should take every opportunity for fellowship and fun together so that we grow deeper in our relationships with each other. Wednesday night suppers are wonderful as people of all ages have time together to share a meal and just enjoy time together. Our summer picnic and our chili cook off are great events! The Congregational Life committee is working on adding more of these fellowship events so we have more opportunities to enjoy time together as a church family.

As we continue to get to know each other better as members of the same Body, we will be blessed in so many ways as we grow in our faith together. We will learn more about the different gifts God has given to each of us and be better able to encourage each other in using these gifts in ways that are expressions of God's love and mercy. We will learn more about the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ and what others are experiencing, both things that bring joy and things that are challenges, so we will be more equipped to hold each other in prayer and to encourage and care for each other and celebrate with each other. We are so blessed to be given such a wonderful family of faith. May we continue to grow together—in faith in Jesus Christ and in relationship with each other as members of the Body of Christ.

-- Pastor Kari

ATTENDANCE

<u>Month</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
December 19/20.....	317	\$ 8,565
December 24.....	700	\$ 9,856
December 26/27*.....	0	\$ 0.00
January 2/3**.....	155	\$ 7,769
January 9/10.....	390	\$ 8,907

* Services cancelled due to snowstorm
 ** Only one Sunday Service

INCOME/EXPENSES

as of the end of December 2009

	<u>Actual</u>
December Monthly Income	\$ 86,826
December Monthly Expense	\$ 60,510
Year-to-Date Income	\$ 582,502
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$ 600,524

SERVICE GROUP #3

Thank you to the people of Service Group #3 for their willing efforts in the service of our Lord and the family of First Lutheran Church.

BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER

DEADLINES

Remember, the deadline for input and articles in the *First Things First* newsletter is the **10th of each month**, unless otherwise noted. The deadline for bulletin items is **10:00 am on Tuesdays** for that following weekend.

PARISH CTR & OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center and Office hours are 9:00—5:00 pm, Monday—Friday. The doors will be unlocked then. *If you need access at other times, you will need a key and will be held responsible for lock-up.* Contact Jerry for more info and a key.

At times other than office hours, please dial the 852-4853 number leaving a detailed message on the answering service. (It takes about 6 rings before it picks up.) *Your message will be reviewed the next work day.* If an emergency should arise during non-office hours, please call Pastor Ken Nelson (837-8783).

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

Landin Joshua Slind

Marriages

none

Funerals & Memorials

none



CHILI COOK OFF

Our **4th Annual Chili Cook-off** was held Wednesday, January 20th. The winners were as follows:

Best Chili (tie) - **Girls Rock Chili**—Pancoast girls, Shipley & Hopkins girls

Uff da Chili—Mihalick & Varty families

Best Bread (1st)- **Church Basement Ladies**—Angie Speiser, Mitzi Sundheim, Sandy Starr, Jeri Langemo, Jeannie Sovak, & Rita Sundahl

(2nd)- Hoffarth Family

Best Theme - **Road Kill Café**—Pastor Mike & Olsen Pancoast, Logan & Dalton Shipley, & Brady Ross

Entire Family

Participation/

Youngest - Justin & Kim Pfeilscheifter, Madison & Hope

Congratulations to our winners! We thank all who entered our contest and all who participated as tasters. Start making your plans for next year's event.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed on Monday, February 15, in observance of President's Day.

VALENTINE'S DAY

SWEETHEART DINNER

There are plans to hold a Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dinner, on Sunday, 14, starting at 5:00 pm, here at FLC's Parish Center.

Watch the church bulletins and our website for more information.



First Lutheran Adult Education Opportunities

There's something for everyone. Join us!



Sunday Forums - 9:45 am - Forum Room (in the basement of the church)

- Jan. 10 — *“Jesus, The New Way” Series* began in January and will finish this month. It is a magnificent account of the life and message of Jesus with N.T. Wright, one of today’s leading New Testament scholars. He is featured regularly on the History Channel. This study will intrigue and inform students of all ages.
- Feb. 7 — *Jesus, The New Way Series—“Who Was Jesus?”*
- Feb. 14 — *Jesus, The New Way Series—“The New Claim”*



Lent Begins February 17 (See Page 4 & 5 for more information)

- Feb. 21 — Foundational Principle 1—*How Is Faith Formed?* (See Page 4 & 5 for more information & complete schedule)
- Feb. 28 — Foundational Principle 2—*What Is the Church?*

Wednesday Lenten Study— 6:00 pm - Kildahl Room
(in the basement of the Parish Center)

- Feb. 24 — 1st Key Faith Practice—*Faith Talk* (See Page 4 & 5 for more information & complete schedule)
- Mar. 3 — 2nd Key Faith Practice—*Devotions & Prayer*

Men’s Breakfast Group - 2nd & 4th Thursdays - 7:00-8:00 am - Charlie’s Café (Feb. 11 & 25)

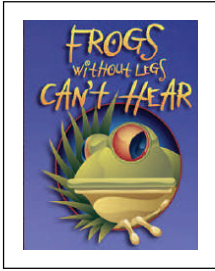
We invite all men to join us for conversation and fellowship.

Thursday Men’s Bible Study - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursdays - 7:00-8:00 am - Conference Room (Feb. 4 & 18)

We have started a study of Romans, one of the most important books of the Bible. This discussion will reveal the major theme of Romans and its applications to many of today’s most important faith questions. Please join us. Coffee...donuts...and great conversation await. Contact Pastor Ken Nelson for more info.

Search Bible Study - Fridays - 9:30 am - Conf. Room -

Join us in studying different books of the Bible in 8 week sessions. No previous study is necessary and materials are provided. We are currently studying the book of Genesis.



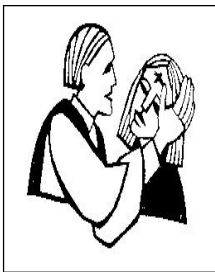
Lent Begins February 17—

“Frogs Without Legs Can’t Hear”

Sunday, February 14: Transfiguration Sunday—Introducing the Theme:
“Frogs Without Legs Can’t Hear”

Though Lent does not actually start until February 17 (Ash Wednesday), on this Transfiguration Sunday, our theme will be unveiled. In the Gospel text for this Sunday, we hear that on the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter, James and John received a clear vision of Jesus as the Son of God as he turned toward Jerusalem and his journey to the cross and empty tomb.

So too, in the season of Lent, we turn with our Lord on that same journey. In his handbook for teaching the faith at home, Martin Luther asks in the Small Catechism, “What does this mean?” That’s our question for Lent, as well. *What does it mean for First Lutheran Church to have our vision “adjusted” as we seek to follow the Risen Lord to “Gather in Faith...Grow Through Grace...Share the Good News of Jesus Christ”?* *What does that mean, not just on Sundays or Wednesdays, but on every day of the week?*



Wednesday, Feb. 17—1st Wednesday of Lent: ASH WEDNESDAY

7:15 PM: Main Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday is an important enough day unto itself that **we will not be following our theme for this service.** HOWEVER, the theme and texts for Ash Wednesday are not unrelated to our theme, for on Ash Wednesday, even and especially as we are confronted with our sinfulness and our human mortality and how God addresses us through the grace of a Savior, **the natural question from the depths of our hearts and minds might be, “What now? How then can I live within the shadow of the cross and the echoes of an empty tomb?”**

Of all of the worship services we offer this season, this one is a little longer. **But it is also one of the most powerful liturgies we have.**

THE REST OF OUR WORSHIP SERVICES
—BOTH SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS—
WILL FOLLOW OUR LENTEN THEME

Our Saturday/Sunday schedule remains the same.

Our Wednesday schedule remains basically the same, **with the exception of the addition of our Wednesday evening worship services** *.

5:00 pm Supper - 6:00 pm Education Hour (including Adult Forums) - * **7:15 PM Worship**

ADULT FORUMS DURING LENT: In addition to the themes that will be unveiled in the preaching during our worship services, our adult forums will also be exploring those themes and practices in a more in-depth sort of way, as well. **Our Sunday morning Adult Forums (9:45 AM) will follow our Sunday morning themes (Foundational Principles) and our Wednesday evening Adult Forums (6 PM) will follow our Wednesday evening themes (Faith Practices).**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR THE WEDNESDAY ADULT FORUMS, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Sundays (at 9:45 am) Forum Room

February 21—1st Sunday of Lent:

Foundational Principle 1—How Is Faith Formed? By the Power of the Holy Spirit, through trusted relationships, often in our own homes.

February 28—2nd Sunday of Lent

Foundational Principle 2—What Is the Church? A living partnership between congregation and home

March 7—3rd Sunday of Lent

Foundational Principle 3—Our Homes Are Church Too? When Christ is present in faith...

March 14—4th Sunday of Lent

Foundational Principle 4—How to be contagious? Viral faith that is caught as much as taught

March 21—5th Sunday of Lent

Foundational Principle 5—Who Can Do This? If we want Christian children & youth, we need Christian adults

Wednesdays (at 6:00 pm) Kildahl Room

February 24—2nd Wednesday of Lent:

1st Key Faith Practice—Faith Talk

March 3—3rd Wednesday of Lent

2nd Key Faith Practice—Devotions & Prayer

March 10—4th Wednesday of Lent

3rd Key Faith Practice—Service

March 17—5th Wednesday of Lent

4th Key Faith Practice—Rituals & Traditions

March 24—6th Wednesday of Lent

What Does a Disciple Look Like?—Authentic, Available, Affirming

First Lutheran Church Women

	<u>Hostess</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Day & Time</u>
#1	Helen Kjellberg	Trinity Ret.	Feb. 4 - 1:30 pm
#2	No Hostess	Grand International Inn	Feb. 4 - 9:30 am
#3	No Hostess	Kildahl Room	Feb. 4 - 9:30 am
#4	Adeline Forsberg	Kildahl Room	Feb. 4 - 1:30 pm
#5	No Hostess	Friendship Room	Feb. 4 - 1:30 pm
#6	No Hostess	Conference Room	Feb. 4 - 5:00 pm
#7	Peggy Kline	105 University Ave E	Feb. 4 - 7:30 pm
#8	Margie Lee	Kildahl Room	Feb. 4 - 8:00 pm
#9	Peggy Schmitt	Friendship Room	Feb. 9 - 7:30 pm



Act boldly.

Dates to Remember:

Feb. 2	4:00 pm	Bible Study Leaders
Feb. 18	1:30 pm	General Assembly—Circle #8 serves
Feb. 25	1:30 pm	Exec & General Board Mtg.
Mar. 2	4:00 pm	Bible Study Leaders

from
Julie Benson,
Christian Education Director

Christian Education



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Regular Sunday School Classes: 9:45—10:40 am

- February 7, 14, 21 & 28
- March 7
- March 14—Family Event

WEDNESDAY SCHOOL

Regular Wednesday School Classes: 6:00—7:00 pm

- February 3, 10, & 17
- February 24—Wednesday & Sunday Teacher, &
Confirmation Guide Meeting
- March 3
- March 10—Family Event

IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES

- February 17 - Ash Wednesday
- March 28 - Palm Sunday
(students will do a procession
at the 10:45 service)
- April 1 - Maundy Thursday
- April 2 - Good Friday
- April 4 - Easter Sunday

CONFIRMATION

6:00—7:15 pm - Main Church Sanctuary

- February 3—Theme Night
- February 10—Theme Night
- February 17—Theme Night
- February 24—Guides & Sun./Wed. School
Teacher’s meeting
- March 3—Theme Night
- March 10—Small Group Fun Night

CONFIRMATION PARENTS

Please make sure your confirmation student has completed their requirements by **May 1st**. We **will not carry over** the yearly requirements to the next year. If all the requirements are not met each year, the student will not be given credit for that year. Students must complete these requirements for **EACH** year. Confirmation is a 3 year program.

Items to be completed by **May 1st**:

- ♦ 15 Sermon Notes
- ♦ 4 Service Projects—such as helping in the church nursery, helping in Sunday/Wednesday classrooms, picking up programs and organizing church after the service, working at the state fair stand, helping with Vacation Bible School, making pies, helping with making rommegrot, anything that helps with any church activities.
- ♦ 4 Worship Projects—such as usher, greeter, lector, communion assistant, altar guild, or participating in a music or bell group.

Make sure the service/worship completion sheet is handed into Julie by May 1st.

If you would like to know how many sermon notes your young adult has completed, you may find out one of three ways:

- ♦ Ask Julie, on Wednesday nights
- ♦ Call Julie ,at 852-6251—leave a message and she will get back to you if she is not home
- ♦ Small group leaders get an update, so your young adult may ask their small group leader

February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00 AM Quilters	2 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg. 2:00 PM Property 4:00 PM Bible Study Ldrs 6:30 PM Worship & Music	3 Wednesday Schedule 9:00 AM REM 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night 6:00 PM Congregational Life	4 Circles #1-8 Meetings - (Please see page 10 for times) 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 11:00 AM Finance 12:00 PM Exec Council	5 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	6 Pastor Mike 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Peace Lutheran Council Retreat 5:30 PM Worship
7 BAPTISM ENROLLMENT SUNDAY Pastor Mike 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forums 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	8 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Boy Scout - Parish Center	9 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg. 2:00 PM Synod Event with CAR Bishop Golike 5:00 PM Council 7:30 PM Circle #9	10 Wednesday Schedule 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night	11 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast	12 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	13 Pastor Ken 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM WND Synod Council Mtg - Forum Room 5:30 PM Worship 6:30 PM Walking Wet Event - Parish Center
14 Pastor Ken 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forums 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 5:00 PM Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dinner	15 Office Closed President's Day	16 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg.	17 ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday Schedule 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	18 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 1:30 PM FLCW General Assembly 6:30 PM Prayer-Shawl Mtg.	19 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	20 Pastor Ken 5:30 PM Worship
21 Pastor Ken 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forums 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	22 9:00 AM Quilters	23 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg.	24 No Dinner or Classes, however, Bells & Choirs will rehearse 6:00 PM Adult Lenten Study 6:00 PM Confirmation - Guide, Sun. School, Wed. School Teachers Mtg. 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	25 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:30 PM FLCW Board Mtg.	26 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	27 Pastor Mike 5:30 PM Worship
28 Pastor Mike 8:45 AM Worship 8:45 AM Moeller Baptism 9:45 AM Adult Forums 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 1:00 PM Youth & Family Synod Event	<p align="center">REGULAR WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>Joyful Noise Choir 3-6th Gr. Supper 4:30 pm Campana Ringers 5:00 pm Wednesday Classes 5:15 pm Pre-School - 6th Grade 6:00-7:00 pm 7-9 Grade Confirmation 6:00-7:15 pm Celebration Ringers 6:30-7:45 pm Cathedral Choir 7:30- 8:30 pm Youth Group / Voices for Worship 7:30 pm</p>					

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Newsletter of First Lutheran Church

February 2010 Issue

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Minot, ND
Permit No. 237

First Lutheran Church
120 - 5th Avenue NW
Minot, ND 58703

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



First Lutheran Staff

Senior Pastor:	Ken Nelson
Associate Pastors:	Mike Pancoast, Kari Pancoast
Volunteer Coordinator:	Vicki Rusch
Parish Receptionist:	Becky Ortiz
Financial Secretary:	Jennifer Hunze
Parish Secretary:	Karen Wing
Parish Education:	Julie Benson
Organist:	Rita Sundahl
Custodians:	Jerry & Sharon Heizelman

First Lutheran Council

President -	Karen Krebsbach
Vice President -	Duane Brekke
Treasurer -	Joylea Knutson
Secretary -	Rick Haisch
Ken Gorze	Lorraine Haugen
Doug Mattson	John Mercer
Cindy Wilhelm	

Missionaries: Katie Narum-Miyamoto—Japan
Rev. Dr. Mark Nygard—Egypt

WORSHIP & EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Wednesday: <i>Wednesday School & Confirmation</i> 6:00 PM	Sunday: <i>Worship</i> 8:45 AM
Saturday: <i>Worship</i> 5:30 PM	<i>Sunday School & Adult Forum</i> 9:45 AM
	<i>Worship</i> 10:45 AM

Nursery provided at Sunday Services

Sunday Radio Broadcast - KRRZ 1390 AM - 8:45 am

OUR WEBSITE: firstlutheranchurchminot.com