

First Things First

March 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!

*“Bring the children to me,
and do not hinder them,
for to such belongs the kingdom of God”*

Matthew 19:14

Earlier in February, we held the second of our “Walking Wet” events here at FLC, hosted by Pastors Mike and Kari Pancoast. At each table sat one of our families who were preparing to present a child for baptism. Our reason for hosting these events is to prepare for baptism not just as a family time, but a congregational one as well. We hope you will accept the invitation to attend one in the future. It will be expected of families who wish to present a child for baptism to attend. But anyone can attend, and we’ll be regularly extending invitations to members and families at large to come and share 90 meaningful minutes together to support those families making this tremendous statement of their faith...the bringing of their children to Jesus.

But wait! If you think about it, “bringing” a child to Jesus is impossible. Why? Because we “belong” to Jesus already, by the simple fact of our existence! In baptism we don’t “give” our children to Jesus so much as we acknowledge they already belong to him. Baptism is a time to recognize that God has made use of parents to bring life into the world and now is making use of congregations, together with parents, to bring spiritual life to them.

As a congregation, as well as parents, we can’t afford the luxury of thinking that a lapse of contact of up to five years between baptism and enrollment in Sunday or Wednesday school will do. Physical and spiritual life is fed regularly, in portions, appropriate to our age. It includes a “balanced diet” of home conversations and congregational ones. It means that while parents are the most significant people in a child’s life, it is the partnership of home and congregation that makes our kids grow and mature in faith. It would be silly to suggest that we could go that long without physical nourishment. We can’t go that long without spiritual

nourishment either – not without consequences. Regular intervals, good balance, and healthy offerings are the way to go with all the food we need.

Throughout Lent, we aim to lift up the “*partnership between home and family.*” We will present both “theological” as well as “practical” ways to create and make use of that partnership.

Please join us for both our Sunday and Wednesday opportunities for worship paired with study, as they are truly designed to go hand in hand. From the moment they are born, our children begin crying “feed me,” and we do. From the moment they are born, they rely on hearing our voices to teach them words and concepts – and as we know...they do listen! From the moment they are born, until they begin formal schooling, most of what they learn how to do is simply a form of imitation...they see what the significant adults in their lives do and then copy it!

I am glad that we are being intentional about the partnership between home and congregation. Through it, we present Jesus to our children, rather than our children to Jesus. He knows them well...he created them after all, and has a lifetime of wonderful opportunities in store for them.

Because of a Cross -
Pastor Ken Nelson



ATTENDANCE

<u>Month</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
January 16/17.....	326.....	\$ 5,873
January 23/24.....	288.....	\$ 8,508
January 30/31.....	337.....	\$ 6,795
February 6/7.....	338.....	\$ 7,858
February 13/14.....	277.....	\$ 4,305

INCOME/EXPENSES

as of the end of January 2010

	<u>Actual</u>
January Monthly Income	\$ 53,884
January Monthly Expense	\$ 45,196
Year-to-Date Income	\$ 53,884
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$ 45,196

SERVICE GROUP #4

Thank you to the people of Service Group #4 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

Madison Rose Pfeilschiefter
Aiden James Focke
Kenadee Tyne Burud
Emmylew Grace Moeller

Marriages

None

Funerals & Memorials

Lorna Luehe
Olga Ragnhild Bauman
Marvel Joy Pietsch (Saron Lutheran)
Laurene Thomas

EASTER FLOWERS



Once again we will be gracing the sanctuary with Easter flowers. If you wish to donate or give a memorial, please have it into the office by 9:00 am, Wednesday, March 24.

WELCOME OUR 2010 COUNCIL

We welcome our new Council:

Loraine Haugen - President
Cindy Wilhelm - Vice President
John Mercer - Treasurer
Rick Haisch - Secretary

Ken Gorze
Doug Mattson
Pam Schmidt
Elizabeth Slotsve
Barb Solberg

ALTAR GUILD



We have openings and are looking for people to serve, approximately one month a year, on the Altar Guild helping to prepare for Communion and other duties relating to worship. We also need people who are willing to substitute. If you would be interested, please contact Vicki Stevens at 839-0562, Diann Hanson at 838-8915, or the church office at 852-4853. The following Altar Guild members will be serving:

March —
Lucy Fiest, DeLane Disrud,
Marian Syzmanski, Joan Varty

April —
Sue Heth, Laura Mihalick, Carla Moorhead,
Tammy Elgie, Nancy Taylor

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)

Continuing with the "*Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear*" series:

Feb. 28 — Foundational Principle 2 — *What Is the Church?*

March 7 — Foundational Principle 3 — *Our Homes Are Church Too? When Christ is present in faith...*

March 14 — Foundational Principle 4 — *How to be contagious? Viral faith that is caught as much as taught*

March 21 — Foundational Principle 5 — *Who Can Do This? If we want Christian children & youth, we need Christian adults*

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

Continuing with the *Key Faith Practices* series:

March 3 — 2nd Key Faith Practice — *Devotions & Prayer*

March 10 — 3rd Key Faith Practice — *Service*

March 17 — 4th Key Faith Practice — *Rituals & Traditions*

March 24 — *What Does a Disciple Look Like?*— *Authentic, Available, Affirming*

Men's Breakfast Group - 2nd & 4th Thursdays - 7:00-8:00 am - Charlie's Café (March 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 (March 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 Exodus.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

March 27	<i>Palm/Passion (Sat.)</i>	5:30 pm
March 28	<i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i>	8:45 & 10:45 am
April 1	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	2:00 & 7:15 pm
April 2	<i>Good Friday</i>	8:00 pm
April 3	<i>Easter Vigil</i>	5:30 pm
April 4	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	7:00 am (Sunrise) 8:45 & 10:45 am
	<i>Easter Breakfast</i>	8:00—11:00 am



First Lutheran Church Women

	<u><i>Hostess</i></u>	<u><i>Place</i></u>	<u><i>Day & Time</i></u>
#1	Jeanne Hohmann	Trinity Ret.	Mar. 4 - 1:30 pm
#2	<i>No Hostess</i>	Grand International Inn	Mar. 4 - 9:30 am
#3	<i>No Hostess</i>	Kildahl Room	Mar. 4 - 9:30 am
#4	Jeanne Wolla	Kildahl Room	Mar. 4 - 1:30 pm
#5	Loanne Olson	Friendship Room	Mar. 4 - 1:30 pm
#6	<i>No Hostess</i>	Conference Room	Mar. 4 - 5:00 pm
#7	Becky Ortiz	Friendship Room	Mar. 4 - 7:30 pm
#8	Kathy Haugeberg	Kildahl Room	Mar. 4 - 8:00 pm
#9	Rita Sundahl	Friendship Room	Mar. 8 - 7:30 pm**



Act boldly.

** Note the day change to Monday, not Tuesday

Dates to Remember:

Mar. 2	4:00 pm	Bible Study Leaders
Mar. 25	1:30 pm	Exec & General Board Mtg.
Mar. 30	4:00 pm	Bible Study Leaders (for April)
Apr. 1	2:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Svc.—Circle #9 serves

March & April

Spring No-Bake Sale

(No March General Assembly)

Worship & Music

At its regular meeting February 2nd meeting, the committee discussed the following:

Our meeting began with a discussion on the present sound system for the church. It was stated that the sound system is working about as well as expected for now... people have noticed some cut-outs and end of phrases not being picked up. It was suggested that a member of the building committee meet with the worship and music committee and discuss the new building project and opportunities for sound in that area. JoAnn Lindrud will make contact and set up a meeting.

The church has about 7 pianos of various ages that need tuning on a regular basis. Rita Sundahl will oversee this area when something needs to be tuned. Names were suggested as to who actually can tune pianos. It was also mentioned that maybe we should get on a regular schedule with someone.

We will be using the Holden Evening Prayer setting for our Lenten services with the theme centered on the book, "Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear." Also included, will be how do we nurture discipleship at home? Wednesday and Sunday services will be related throughout Lent. Discussion followed about what music was needed for the services. It was brought up that maybe each choir could take a Wednesday Lenten service to offer music. The time of the service is set for 7:15 pm on Wednesday, with a chancel drama and a pastoral message reflecting on the theme and drama.

It was brought up that maybe an Easter sunrise service would be relevant again. We have not had a sunrise service for a few years.

Taken under advisement was a suggestion to include some background music when there is a break for prayers or silent reflection time, as there is dead air space on the radio.

Pastor Mike updated the committee on the new worship planning team and is thankful that people have said yes when asked to serve. He will continue to fill out the team, and hopefully, have a first meeting before Holy Week.

It was brought up that we need volunteers to serve as ushers for the second service. Suggestions on how to get people to serve was discussed. If you would like to serve, give Vicki a call at the church office.

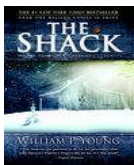
Other items discussed:

- ♦ there are hymnals with missing pages - we need to gather these and send back to company for replacement
- ♦ we need to have better lighting on the pastors, so we can see them in the pulpit
- ♦ maybe on Annual Meeting Sunday, there could be only one service
- ♦ comments were made on how well the healing service went and we look forward to the service in May

Please contact any of the following with your worship concerns:

Julie Benson	852-6251
Clint & Jylann Hanson	725-4904
Joan Holum	839-7136
JoAnn Linrud (Chair)	838-2414
Beth Murphy	839-1011
Pastor Ken Nelson	837-8783
Pastor Mike Pancoast	838-8111
Judy Ross	839-7704
Wayne Schempp	837-9662
Jeannie Sovak	839-3706
Angie Speiser	839-6005
Rick Stevens	839-0562
Rita Sundahl	838-8295

MSU Campus Ministry Corner



Do you like to read? Join Lutheran Campus Ministry as we gather to discuss the book "The Shack" by WM Paul Young. This is a book that brings up great questions about faith and life. You do not have to have read the book to attend the first gathering. **Join us on Monday nights for great discussion and treats.** For more information call Lutheran Campus Ministry at 839-3949.

When: Monday Evenings starting – March 1

Where: Augustana Lutheran Church

Bring your own copy of "The Shack"

Weekly Activities:

Soup Lunch ---- Tuesdays from 11:30 – 1:00

Where: Augustana Lutheran (across from Lura Manor). Every week there will be different soup! There will also be the opportunity to use the **wireless internet, challenge someone to a game of Wii bowling or study.**



LCM Weekly Gathering – Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Multicultural room in the Student Center. Come for great discussion about faith and how it relates to your life today.

from
Julie Benson,
Christian Education Director

Christian Education



SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

- March 7
- March 14—Family Event
- March 21
- March 28
- April 4— No Class—*Easter Sunday*

WEDNESDAY SCHOOL

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

- March 3
- March 10—Teacher Meeting
- March 17
- March 24
- March 31—No Class—*Holy Week*
- April 7

Throughout the year, we teach many important lessons about the life of Christ.

We encourage you to attend the Lenten services as a family. We also encourage you and your family to attend these three services as they are very powerful experiences that help children make connections of what is taught in class through their interaction in the service.

CONFIRMATION

6:00—7:15 pm - Main Church Sanctuary

- March 3—Theme Night
- March 10—Small Group Fun Night or Servant Night
- March 17—Theme Night
- March 24—Theme Night
- March 31—No Class—*Holy Week*
- April 7—Theme Night



April 1—
Maundy Thursday
—2:00 & 7:15 pm

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL

March 28—10:45 Service
Students Preschool—Grade 6



Students will meet in the Parish Center Assembly Hall at 10:30 am.

After the processional, the students will sit with their parents for the service.

April 2—*Good Friday Tenebrae*
—8:00 pm



April 4—*Easter Sunday*
—7:00, 8:45 & 10:45 am

March 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 WED. LENT SCHEDULE 9:00 AM REM 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	4 Circles #1-8 Meetings - (Please see page 4 for times) 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 3:00 PM ManoCare 5:00 PM Finance 6:00 PM Exec Council	5 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	6 5:30 PM Worship	
7 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forum 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	8 9:00 AM Quilters 7:30 PM Circle #9	9 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg. 5:00 PM Council	10 WED. LENT SCHEDULE No Dinner or Wed. School or Confirmation, however, Bells & Choirs will rehearse 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	11 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast or Confirmation, however, rehearse 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	12 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	13 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Haakenstad 80th Birthday 5:30 PM Worship	
14 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forum 9:45 AM Family Event 10:45 AM Worship 1:00 PM Sons of Norway - Prepare for Dinner	15 9:00 AM Quilters 6:30 PM Sons of Norway Potato Klub Dinner	16 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg.	17 WED. LENT SCHEDULE 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night 7:15 PM Lenten Worship	18 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl Mtg.	19 9:30 AM Search 11:30 AM Luther's Kitchen	20 5:30 PM Worship	
21 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forum 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 WED. LENT SCHEDULE 6:00 PM Confirmation - Theme Night 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 5:30 PM Worship	
28 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Adult Forum 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	29 9:00 AM Quilters	30 10:30 AM Staff 1:00 PM Pastor's Mtg. 4:00 PM Bible Study Ldrs	31 No Wednesday Activities	LENTEN WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE			Adult Ed 7-9 Grade Confirmation Celebration Ringers Lenten Worship Cathedral Choir Joyful Noise Choir 6:00 pm Supper 6:00-7:00 pm Campana Ringers 6:00-7:00 pm Wednesday Classes 7:15 pm Pre-School - 6th Grade 8:00 pm

First Things First

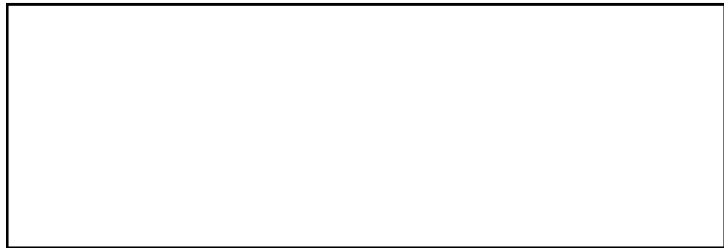
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First Lutheran Church
120 - 5th Avenue NW
Minot, ND 58703

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 -	Loraine Haugen
Vice President -	Cindy Wilhelm
Treasurer -	John Mercer
Secretary -	Rick Haisch
Ken Gorze	Elizabeth Slotsve
Doug Mattson	Barb Solberg
Pam Schmidt	

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