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First Lutheran Church
PO Box 116
Clear Lake, WI 54005

First Edition

“Growing God’s Family by Serving”



First Evangelical Lutheran Church ~ LCMC
Clear Lake, Wisconsin

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

Phone: 263-2846

Pastor’s Office Hours 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; Monday-Thursday

Parsonage: 263-2848

Email: firstluth@cltcomm.net Website: www.firstluthclearlake.com

... and you shall call his name

Jesus for he will save his
people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21, ESV



December 2024

Family Faith Building During Advent

Advent is a time of preparation. We take our Sundays before Christmas to ready ourselves for Christ's birth. We also look forward to Jesus' return. It can be a very busy time of course. So busy that we squeeze out thinking about Jesus much. He is the reason for the season after all.

On Sunday, December 15th we invite any and all, especially families, to join together after the worship. We will take an intentional pause to reflect on Jesus' birth. We also hope to share some joy with others. Put this on your family calendar so you can enjoy time together.

After worship we will share some cheese, sausage and crackers. We hope to make a special craft or treat to share in our homes. We will share a family devotion. And after our bodies and souls have been tended to, we plan to share in Christmas caroling around the community.

Who hasn't felt the mad rush leading up to Christmas? We don't want to add to the hectic schedule. Lets plan to cut out something and put some time into family bonding and faith building. Don't forget to dress warmly for caroling. We hope to see you for a meaningful time. Invite a friend.

In Christ,
Pastor Bryan



Sunday, December 15th

8:30 AM – Contemporary Worship

10:00 AM – Sunday School Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM – Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Day

10:00 AM – Christmas Day Service
with Holy Communion

ATTENTION SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS



The Christmas program is scheduled for **Sunday, December 15th at the 10:00 AM worship service.** Every role is important, so please help your child memorize his/her speaking part so they can proclaim the Good News of Jesus! Also, attendance at the Sunday morning rehearsals at 9:40 AM is very important! ☺

The dress rehearsal will be **Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 AM-11:00 AM.** This is an important rehearsal as it will be the first time your child gets to practice with the microphone. If your child cannot attend this rehearsal or will NOT be able to be in the program this year, please contact Theresa Anderson at 715-263-2848.



A Birthday Party for Jesus!



Come celebrate
the real reason for the season!

There will be fun & games and of course cake!

When: Sat., Dec. 14th from 11:00 AM to Noon
(the party begins immediately after the program practice)

Where: First Lutheran Church

Questions: Call Theresa at 715-263-2848

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

ALTAR GUILD: Richard Selvig

READERS

1 Jennifer Munson
8 Kiley Munson
15 **Sunday School Christmas Program**
22 Don Dipprey
29 Nancy McQuinn

GREETERS: Dale & Sherry Wirth

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Tim Wyss

COUNTERS: Dawn Petersen & Tim Wyss

USHERS

1 & 8 Dean & Jane Scholz
15, 22 & 29 Barb Anderson & Aaron Johnson
24 (*Christmas Eve*) 4:00 PM Richard Becker
25 (*Christmas Day*) 10:00 AM Richard Selvig

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

1 Julie Barfknecht, Ashley LaBlanc & Angela Harris Families
8 (**Potluck**) Eva Wilson & Delores Levendoski
15 Derek & Katie Wagner Family
22 Aaron Johnson Family
29 Jason & Kristin LaBeree Family

FINANCES

Giving:

Total offering for October \$15,238.51 (\$20,728.08 needed monthly)
October year to date offering \$179,106.44 (\$207,280.84 YTD Budget)

Bremer Mortgage Remaining Balance \$621,696.82

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2024

Present: Pastor Bryan Anderson, Tim Wyss, Jackie Goodmanson, Neil Larson, Kevin Kamm, Bill McIntire, Anna Buhr, Dan Cain, Linn Case, Laura Lieffring.

Meeting called to order by Tim Wyss, Pastor led in prayer.

Reports: (Secretary, Budget, Pastor): Secretary and Pastor reports approved as presented. Budget reports were unclear. Neil and Aaron will visit with Terri to investigate questions.

Committee Delegates & update on Reports:

Finance (Aaron & Neil)-Meeting to draft 2025 budget set for December 5, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

Property (Linn & Bill)-Roof on the Church and Parsonage are completed. Painting for church and parsonage church is needed. Phil Anderson will be contacted by Bill to contract for plowing the lots.

Outreach (Jackie & Anna)-Red Cross Blood Drive March 25, 2025, should be on website already for registration. The women's event is February 8, 2025. Family Advent Celebration December 15, 2024.

Youth (Hannah & Dan)-Youth will have their Christmas Party in December during a confirmation evening.

Worship (Laura & Tim)-Christmas Services: Tuesday 24th, 4:00 PM- Wednesday 25th, 10:00 AM.

Old Business:

- A. Inactive Members-Terri will generate a list of these people with phone numbers. At the next council meeting, the council members will divide the list up and personally reach out to them.

New Business:

- A. Jackie made a motion to approve Confirmation youth and new members. Bill seconded, and motion was carried unanimously. The list is as follows. Confirmands: Devin Alvermann, Andrew Buhr, Seth Cain, Jerret Case, Brennon Colbeth, Miles Johnson, Ben LaBeree, Nathalie Petersen. New Members: Delores Levendoski, Matt Steffen, Angie Peterson & Camden Steffen, Ben Strobach, and Sally Wirth.

- B. Gutter guard estimate: TS roofing submitted an estimate for \$1,150.00. Neil made a motion to accept the estimate. Kevin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Fellowship List coordinator: This person will assign people to serve during fellowship. Dale Wirth will be asked to mentor the person who will take over. Terri will provide current list and direction as needed.
- D. Playground equipment silent auction bids end Friday. Winners will be contacted.
- E. Minutes from Council meeting to be posted in the newsletter and on the church bulletin board.

Adjournment: Bill McIntire made the motion to adjourn, Neil Larson seconded motion.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Goodmanson

Church and Parsonage Get New Roofs

Some had noticed a roofing crew on the sanctuary and parsonage in November and wondered why this was happening on a roof that wasn't very old. It all happened because of a hail storm that passed through parts of Clear Lake on July 30. Probably even before the hail balls melted, roofing contractors descended on the community like locusts from a plague in the Old Testament.

We contacted our insurance carrier for an opinion of the damages. After having the roof inspected by the insurance adjustor, it was determined that enough damage had occurred to require the entire church structure and the parsonage be stripped of the original shingles and re-roofed. There was also damage to the siding. This has not yet been repaired due to a lack of bids and now being too late in the season to paint.

The Council's Property Committee sought bids from at least four roofers and the Council accepted the lowest bid. Barring another disaster, we should be done with church roofing for more than twenty years.


December BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: Jim Witthoft | 19: Thomas Sloan |
| 2: Karen French | McKenna Moll |
| 3: Jared Fritz | Ricky Anderson |
| 4: Brett Magnuson | Carol Kobernick |
| 5: Jennifer Bylander | 20: Brian Wick |
| 7: LaMoyne Emerson, Jr. | Alexandria Anderson |
| Trevor Gilbertson | Marty Bruner |
| 8: Matt O'Connell | 22: Julie Barfknecht |
| Alice Sullwold | Patty Sullwold |
| 9: Mike Elwood | Wyatt Brihn |
| 10: Mitchell Paulson | Haydin Cain |
| Mitchell Anderson | 23: Ed Neitge |
| Jaxson Peterson | 26: Zach Kirk |
| 14: Darlene Briesemeister | 27: Jennifer Strenke |
| 15: LaMoyne Emerson, Sr. | 28: Camden Steffen |
| Jessica Christensen | 30: Emma Colgrove |
| 17: Kelly Doeden | 31: Hailey Gilbertson |

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

Who was governor of Syria when Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem for a mandated registration, or census?

- A. Theophilus
- B. Herod Antipas
- C. Pontius Pilate
- D. Quirinius



Answer: D (See Luke 2:1-7)



CHOOSE JOY

WOMEN'S EVENT

Three hours. Two speakers. One purpose.

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2025 8:30AM-11:30AM
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CLEAR LAKE, WI

SCAN TO REGISTER

\$15 ADMISSION



CONTACT:

- ✉ FINDINGBEAUTIFUL4@GMAIL.COM
- ♥ [HTTPS://WWW.FIRSTLUTHCLEARLAKE.COM](https://www.firstluthclearlake.com)
- 🏠 811 SOUTH AVE. W CLEAR LAKE, WI 54005

New this year: Gift Certificates are available for purchase!
A perfect gift idea for that hard to buy for lady!
The \$15 gift certificates will be sold on Sundays at church.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorials Given to the Building Fund

In Memory of	Given by
Dixie Croes	Richard & Marlys Lambert
Dixie Croes	Larry & Mary Jo Lien
Dixie Croes	Shannon Steel

Memorials Given to the Memorial Garden Fund

In Memory of	Given by
Dixie Croes & Ovelia Emerson	Mike & Rosemary Johnson

Memorials Given to the Unspecified Fund

In Memory of	Given by
Dixie Croes	Dennis & Cindy Nelson
Dixie Croes	Carole Larson
Dixie Croes	Jeanne Briesemeister

Memorials Given for Music/Choir

In Memory of	Given by
Dixie Croes	Lois & Linnea Campion
Dixie Croes	Deb Arcand
Lee Wick	Eva Wilson

Memorial Given to First Lutheran Quilters

In Memory of	Given by
Dixie Croes	Derry & Janet Monson

Memorials Given for Youth

In Memory of	Given by
LeRoy Meyer & Kurtis Olsvig	Gene & Sharon Kuhl

CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church is again sponsoring a “Christmas for Children” drive again this year to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmas time. “Christmas for Children” is designed to reach more needs of our local community. Anyone wishing to donate items to the “Christmas for Children” drive can do so by leaving them in the container labeled “Christmas for Children” in the Church Entry or at True Value Hardware from November 4, 2024 through December 8, 2024. All gifts will be given to children ages 0-18 in the Clear Lake School District area. If you are in need of gifts for your children or if you know of other families in the Clear Lake School District who are in need of Christmas gifts for their children, we would like to hear from you. Call Debi Ahrens at 715-441-5477 or Diane Blanchard at 715-263-2690 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names will be kept strictly confidential.

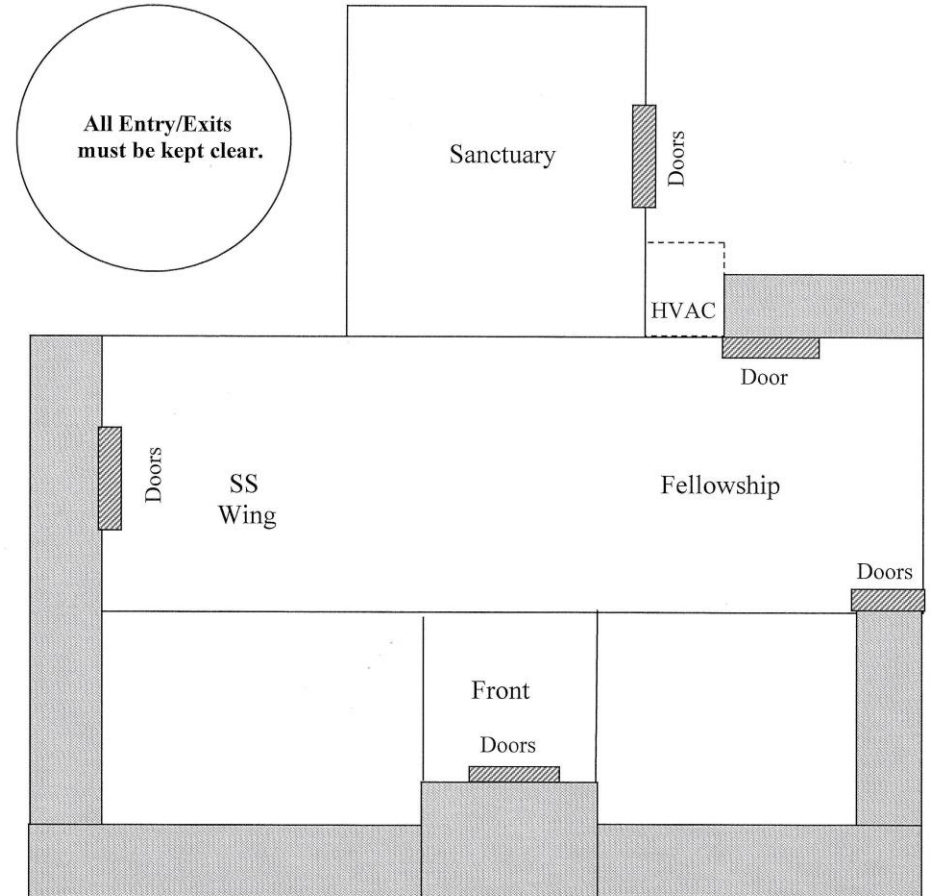
PLEASE HELP!

Snow shoveling volunteers are needed by the week throughout the winter. A sign-up sheet is posted on a clipboard at the back of worship. Thank you for your service.

Snow Shoveling Volunteer Map

Volunteers will clear all sidewalks and entrances as shaded below. All auto parking is cleared by a hired plow.

The church supplies shovels, ice chippers, salt or you may bring your own.



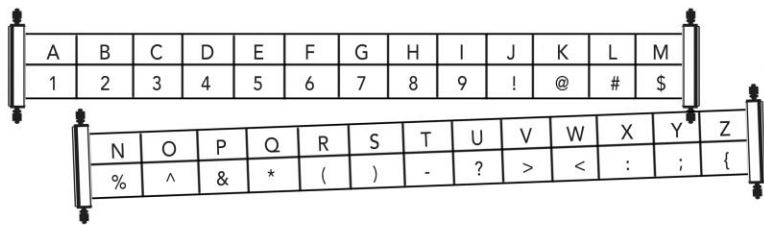


PUZZLE

CLUES ABOUT CHRISTMAS

The Old Testament contains many details about Jesus' birth.
Can you uncover what Isaiah prophesied?

Directions: Use the code to write the letters and complete Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV.



For to us a 3 8 9 # 4 is 2 ^ (%) ^ %

is 7 9 > 5 %, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful 3 ^ ? %) 5 # ^ (

\$ 9 7 8 - ; God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the

greatness of his government and & 5 1 3 5 there will be no 5 % 4.

He will reign on David's - 8 (^ % 5 and over his @ 9 % 7 4 ^ \$

establishing and upholding it with ! ?) - 9 3 5 and righteousness

from that time on and 6 ^ (5 > 5 (Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV

NEWS & NOTES



We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love: Ed Neitge, Dennis Luehman, Levi Ramsey, Cyndy Wittthoft (sister of Deann Wagner), and Jerry Miller (cousin of Sally Wirth). *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

Our Sympathy is extended to the family of Dixie Croes on her recent passing.

Thank you to all who helped with this year's Fall Dinner.

Donations \$1,725.00 Basket Raffle \$3,229.10
Free-will Offering \$4,358.00 General Raffle \$1,586.00



We welcomed six new members into our church fellowship on Sunday, November 3, 2024. Please join together in welcoming them into the congregation.



L to R: Delores Levendoski, Sally Wirth, Angie Peterson, Matt Steffen with Camden, and Ben Strobach