

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1200 4th Avenue

Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6148

Fax: (507) 376-6149

Email: felcwgt@frontiernet.net

Web Site: felcwgt.org

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday

WORSHIP: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

COMMUNION: First and Third Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 am (Sept.–May)

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

GARY GERDES, PRESIDENT –

(507) 376-3574

LISA WALDNER, VICE PRESIDENT -

(507) 372-4597

MARY LARSON, SECRETARY –

(507) 376-9182

CHURCH STAFF

RICHARD RICKER--Pastor

Natalie Zinnel--Administrative Secretary

Amy Lein--Youth & Family Director

David & Robin Stoyke--Custodians

Lola Geisendorfer--Parish Visitor

Pam Fleming--Worship Planner & Visual

Coordinator

Eric Parrish--Choir Director

Jacque Frerichs--Organist/Choir

Accompanist

Lois Gruis--Bell Choir Director

Lori Nienkerk--Choir Accompanist/

Organist

Dennis Selberg--Treasurer

Deb Koob--Financial Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

**FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH, WORTHINGTON, MN**

God has called us, the baptized members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Worthington, Minnesota, to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples of all people.

Living out our Mission

In obedience, we commit ourselves to the Lord's ministry rooted in a fertile agricultural prairie of God's creation. Relying on the promise of the Holy Spirit, and through Word and Sacraments, we will grow toward wholeness through worship, learning, service, witness, support, and fellowship.

Adopted 5-31-87

Reflections

I want to let you all know something that I have noticed about our youth; they are service driven. I can't tell you how many times I reflect on this fact and feel blessed! When I first came to this church around three years ago it floored me how much our youth wanted to serve. I first saw it in our senior high youth, who would rather go on a Mission Trip and spread the word and love of Christ than go on a fun trip. They would rather paint houses and play with children then go to a convention and listen to bands. How amazing is that! Our youth were so driven last year after the trip that they collected items for Kids Club which is similar to Vacation Bible School so that the youth at Kids Club this year would have more options for crafts. I thought it would be interesting to see other ways our youth are servant driven aside from the mission trip.

Let's look at our Senior and Middle School youth and youth group. I have to be honest, there sometimes was a decent amount of set up and take down for youth group. At times tables need to be moved and boundaries made. I have youth who come every Wednesday after school to help me out. After youth group, all the youth also stick around to help move things back. At the meal that we serve, I am mainly helped out by youth. It is the youth who make and pour the drinks, help serve the pizza, and who set up the line. Also, in youth group we have done service projects like Pirates for the Pantry where our youth go out and collect canned food. This year, despite the pouring rain, our youth wanted

to do their best and collected 420 pounds of food! All that food goes to the needy right here in Worthington. We also had a media fast where five of our youth gave up all media for a weekend and learned about poverty right here in town. We helped at Bibles for Mission, made 9 quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief, and served at the Bread of Life.

This year our elementary youth put together all the boxes for Operation Christmas Child and youth of all ages and a couple parents helped us fill 15 boxes. They wanted those children to have a Christmas with gifts and tried to put as much as they could into every box. Each year our Elementary youth also make tree ornaments to sell to raise money for heifer international. We raise enough money each year to send an animal to a family in need. We have sent a llama, a pig, and who knows what we will send next year. These youth are taught when we make the ornaments about the life that these needy families live, and they understand our need to serve. It starts young in the church, this desire to serve others.

Just last month we had Vacation Bible School here at church. I know that if it were not for my helpers, crafts would have been very difficult to do. I needed those high school helpers to serve our elementary youth. We had youth leading recreation, helping with music, crafts, as teachers, helping with the preschool kids, and helping in the kitchen. Without the great support of our older youth it would have been very difficult to have a successful VBS. Thanks to them and the adult helpers the week was amazing for many youth. I can't tell you how amazing it is to see our youth giving back to the church in that way. We also have youth giving offerings not only to the church but to the youth. They are excited to have a program like

ours and want to see it continue! I thank God every day for our service driven youth.

Our youth also are leaders outside of our church. We have youth that have stepped up to help, lead programs such as Teens Encounter Christ. By doing this they reach out to other youth in the tri-state area and help show them the never ending love of God. Many youth that they reach are hurting and are in need of a community of believers. They find that love, and that community through our youth. As I write this it is just two days before we leave on our Mission Trip. Thanks for supporting the youth in this church and giving them opportunities to be service driven youth. We truly are blessed to have such dedicated youth.

Amy Lein

Lessons and Themes for the Sundays in July, 2009:

7/5/09: 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 123
Ezekiel 2:1-5
2 Corinthians 12:2-20
Mark 6:1-13

7/12/09: 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 85:8-13
Amos 7:7-15
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

7/19/09: 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 23
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

7/26/09: 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 145:10-18
Jeremiah 2 Kings 4:42-44
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

Praise the Lord

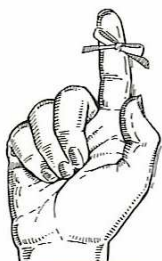
The following is the financial report for First Lutheran as of May 31, 2009:

General Fund:

Bal. 4/30/09:	(\$18,087.98)
Inc., May	\$28,036.78
Exp., May	\$23,999.44
Bal. 5/31/09:	(\$14,050.64)

Building

Bal. 4/30/09:	\$25,809.81
Inc., May	\$1,180.50
Exp., May	\$7.74
Bal. 5/31/09:	\$26,982.57



DON'T FORGET
TO TITHE WHILE
YOU'RE AWAY

Sunday Servants



If for any reason you are unable to serve on the Sunday indicated, please trade with someone else on the list or find a replacement and contact the church office so that

the names can be listed correctly in the church bulletin. **Please watch the mail for the post card. This is a temporary schedule for the month so it may change. Thank you.**

Tape Duplicator: Leroy Merkel

Van Driver:

7/5	Mike Vosburgh
7/12	Doug Frisch
7/19	Jim Hudson
7/26	Randy Potts

Acolytes (Contact Person: Julia Berger, 376-6906)

7/5	8:00	Nick Demuth Trevor Wietzema
	10:00	Troy Feller/Nathan Patten
7/12	8:00	Miles Veen Nathan Faragher
	10:00	Sydney Burns Zachary Kempema
7/19	8:00	Colton Poppema Tyler Faragher
	10:00	Outdoor Service
7/26	8:00	Nick Demuth Trevor Wietzema
	10:00	Rebecca Christensen Nathan Patten

Ushers (Contact Person: Julia Berger)

7/5	8:00	Nathan Lowe Lauren Stanton
	10:00	Eric Koob
7/12	8:00	Ashley Veen Courtney Faragher
	10:00	Emily Anderson Chelsey Isder
7/19	8:00	Matthew Poppema Shelby Faragher
	10:00	Outdoor Service
7/26	8:00	Logan Waldner
	10:00	Levi Severance

Greeters (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

7/5	8:00	Joan Doeden/Diana White
	10:00	Darcy Poppema Family
7/12	8:00	Gene Christensen Family
	10:00	Gary & Marless Milbrath
7/19	8:00	Matt & Alisa Russell Family
	10:00	Al & Doris Selberg
7/26	8:00	Jim & Paula Laffrenzen
	10:00	Rich & Marcia Liapis

Lectors (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

7/5 8:00 Lisa Waldner
10:00 Karen Lewis
7/12 8:00 Cindy Russell
10:00 Daniel Anderson
7/19 8:00 Paula Laffrenzen
10:00 Glennis Pearson
7/26 8:00 Vona Mae Vihlen
10:00 Matt Widboom

Coffee Servers (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

7/5 Bob & Margaret Shipley
Worrell & Betty Bremer
7/12 Larry & Norma Woodbury
Jim & Mary Kraft
7/19 John & Nora Leinen Family
7/26 Todd & Robin Dolliver
Bob & Jane Benson

Contemp. Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

7/12 8 & 10 Lisa Waldner
7/26 8:00 Margaret Erickson
10:00 Ed Philipp

Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

7/5 8:00 John Vihlen
10:00 Rich Liapis
7/19 8:00 Ryan McGaughey
10:00 Lola Geisendorfer

Synthesizer (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

7/12 8: & 10 Katie Fleming
7/26 8:00 Brenda Stanton
10:00 Nancy Myrom

Nursery Attendants (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

7/5 8:00 Linda Towne
Paula Laffrenzen
10:00 Gene & Charlene Wachter
7/12 8:00 Carrie Adams
Nicole Kempema
10:00 Doris Selberg/Mary Larson

7/19 8:00 Debbie Koob/Jane Benson
10:00 Ryan & Rebecca
McGaughey
7/26 8:00 Lynnea Faragher Family
10:00 Janet Patten/Carol Seivert

Busy Bags (Contact Person: Sara Barber, 360-1368)

July: Mary Larson
August: Pam Fleming
September: Julie Christensen
October: Paula Laffrenzen
November: Dana White

July Birthdays

1 Ray Jr. Frazee
1 Adeline Larson
2 Travis Thiner
3 Viola Johnson
4 Angie Randgaard
4 Daniel Shipley
4 Arnold Waldner
5 Devin Frodermann
5 Shari Nelson
6 Russell Miller
7 Crystal Severance
9 Cindy Rogers
9 Matthew Russell
9 Pam Stewart
10 Jordon Rogers
11 Dennis Christensen
11 James Engelson
11 Lorraine Frazee
11 Kimberly Kraft
13 Gene Wachter
13 Valeri Wilkening
15 Nicholas Dieter
15 Linda Hudson
15 Heidi Randall
16 Jeff Johnson
17 Margaret Cooper
17 Courtney Faragher
19 Dorothy Akerson
19 Sara Barber
19 Trigg Bryngelson
19 Katelyn Frodermann
20 Zachary McGaughey
21 Glenda Olsen

- 22 Jim Black
- 22 Cody Buchman
- 23 Jerome Anderson
- 23 Cheyanne Slinger
- 24 Bethel Sanderson
- 24 Krista Van Note
- 25 Brian Baker
- 25 Brittany Boomgarden
- 25 Charles Schadt
- 25 John Widboom
- 26 Irene Eisele
- 26 William Jacobson
- 26 Wynn Kirkeby
- 27 Alice Hall
- 27 Debra Thueson
- 27 Nancy Zuehlke
- 28 Daren Bauman
- 28 Emily Nienkerk
- 28 Curt Pearson
- 28 Rod Poppema
- 29 Shelia Hawkinson
- 30 Jeremy Berger
- 31 Olivia Adams
- 31 Gwen Peil

First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Hy-Vee, with the Hy-Vee Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 5% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the church office and between services on Sunday. We have \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 5%. All the cards are prepaid and are like cash when you purchase them. As of May 31, 2009 a total of \$15,234.08 has been put into the general fund.

Thank you for everything you have done for me in the past years and also for the beautiful quilt.

Alyssa Berg

Dear First Lutheran Church & Quilters,

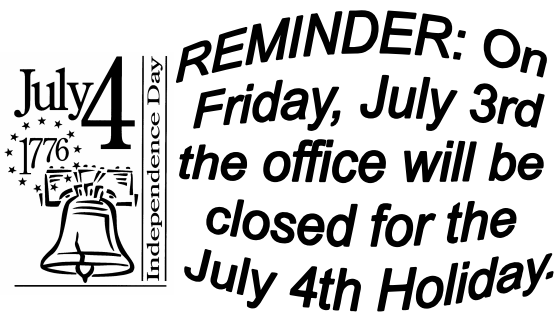
Thank you for the denim quilt! It is very warm and will be very useful at college next year.

Brittany Elsing



Thanks for the beautiful quilt! It will help to remind me of all the warmth that First Lutheran has shown me over the years.

Have a great summer,
Adam Vosburgh



Seasoned Citizens: We will meet on Thursday, July 9th at 2:00 pm. Please watch the bulletin for more information.

A "Big Thank You" to all of the volunteers who went and served at the Banquet in Sioux Falls. We served 507 guests, 96 of which were children 12 and under. It was a busy day - the 7 that went at 12:30 pm deboned 34 turkeys, made mashed potatoes and gravy and put green beans into the steamer. We also did other misc. jobs. At 5:30 pm after the rest of the volunteers came, we were briefed as to procedure, then had devotions. Job assignments were then given and from 6:00-7:30 pm guests arrive. Praise God for giving your time and energy!



VBS 2009

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we can be called children of God!” (1 John 3:1)

Vacation Bible School was held from June 1st-5th. Our theme was “Son Rock Kids Camp.” The students learned their lives can be transformed by God’s great love for them. Like the apostle Peter, they explored who they are in Jesus Christ-the most important relationship of all. Because of His love for us, He is the rock upon which we can build our lives! We had about 65 kids that filled our church with their energy and laughter during the week. The kids collected enough daily offering to support our Compassion Child for 4 months. Way to go kids!! We had a wonderful closing program and lunch on Friday. The kids did an awesome job singing!!

We had 45 adults and youth who helped out in one way or another during the week by teaching or helping in one of the many other areas. We are so blessed to have so many people willing to give of their time and love to make this week possible for our children. Without each and every one of the following people listed below, VBS would not be possible.

Preschool and Kindergarten: Lynnea Faragher, Shelby Faragher, Courtney Faragher, Ashley Veen, Haley Rogers, Sara Barber, Hannah Huisman

1st and 2nd grade: Katie Fleming

3rd and 4th grade: Erica Berger

5th and 6th grade: Lisa Waldner

Crafts: Amy Lein, Sabrina Klein, Michael Harberts, Jonas Phillip, Kinzie Myrom, Diane Sletten

Music: Shelly Gieselman, Kahla Gieselman, Jordan Gieselman, Teresa Widboom, Maggie, Janie

Recreation: Joe Christensen, Ben Christensen, Eric Koob, Logan Waldner, Cody Livingston, Dylan Livingston, Becca Christensen, Jade Ternus, Eric VanderLinden, Miles Veen

Kitchen/Snacks: Arlene Lowe, Angela Lowe, Bobbie Elvin, Sandy Bents

“Weenie Women”: Linda Nelson, Linda Neugebauer

A special thank you to Natalie Zinnel and Bobbie Elvin for the beautiful murals they colored for us to use for decorations...you did such a wonderful job. Natalie also filled in and helped out in many capacities during the week.

Thanks to Bob Benson for constructing our “Son Rock” archway and helping us decorate, and to Pam Fleming for putting together our slide show of the kids’ pictures. Thank you also to Pastor Richard for being so supportive and for just being there to visit with us and with all the children...that means more than you realize!!

There are not enough words to thank all of the above, and to thank you parents for sharing your children with us this week.

In Christ’s Love,
Debbie Koob and Jane Benson



Independence Day

Church Humor

“LOT'S WIFE”

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

****_DID NOAH FISH?_****

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms?*'

HIGHER POWER

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, 'We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times, but there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?' One child blurted out, 'Aces!'

****_MOSES AND THE RED SEA_****

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. 'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.' 'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his mother asked. "Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"**

****_THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD_****

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said

proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

BEING THANKFUL

A Rabbi said to a precocious six-year-old boy, 'Your mother says your prayers for you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?' The little boy replied, 'Thank God he's in bed!'

****_UNANSWERED PRAYER_****

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why. 'Well, Honey,' he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages, 'I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon.' 'So, how come He doesn't?' she asked.

****_UNTIMELY ANSWERED PRAYER_****

During the minister's prayer one Sunday, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, 'Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?' Tommy answered soberly, 'I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!'

TIME TO PRAY

A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night. 'Yes, sir,' the boy replied. 'And, do you always say them in the morning, too?' the pastor asked. 'No sir,' the boy replied. 'I ain't scared in the daytime.'





Chautauqua Park!
Sunday, July 19, 2009
Join Us for

Everyone is invited to our Church Service on July 19th which will be held in the Band Shell at Chautauqua Park at 10:00 am. The Gospelaire Men's Quartet will be singing and leading the service. The Community is invited to attend and join us for a potluck dinner. The meat and drink will be provided. The Gospelaire have been singing together for almost 30 years. Members are Mike Van Voorst, Paul Schutte, Gary Hietbrink, Christ Wynia and pianist Nancy Hofstee.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Updates:

* Please keep the youth going on the Adventure Trip in your prayers. Pray that they can see Christ at Fort Courage and grow deeper in their relationship with Him.

*Adventure Trip training and send off is July 11th at 6 pm. Please come with anything you have already packed so we can load up the vans that night.

* Mark your calendar! The pool party is August 9th from 6-8 pm. More information will be coming soon!

The Edgerton Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring Mark Schultz in concert on Friday, July 10th at the Edgerton city park. If you would like to help offset the cost of this concert and keep the ticket price affordable, you can give your contribution to the deacons and write Mark Schultz concert in the memo of your check. We have been offered a \$5,000 matching contribution, which means that anything that you give towards the concert expenses will be doubled until we reach \$5,000! If you have any questions, contact Rob Veldkamp or Tom Bouma.

Beginning Experience of Southwest

Minnesota, a peer ministry support group for widowed, separated and divorced people is offering its Level II "Rebuilding" series for ten weeks beginning July 13-September 21, 2009. The Monday night sessions begin at 7:00 P.M. at the First Lutheran Church on Church and "A" Street in Marshall, MN. Registration is held the first two Monday nights starting at 6:30 P.M. Registration is then closed for that session. The support group is open to people of all denominations. There is a fee to cover the cost of materials. This series is designed for those who are past the initial pain of losing a partner and are working to put their lives back together. All dialogue is confidential and facilitators are individuals who have suffered a similar loss. If you wish to pre-register or have other questions concerning level participation, contact Pat at 507-829-3148 / email pjwm@iw.net or Diana at 507-274-6551 / email gosnow27@yahoo.com or Shirley at 507-828-8369.

Beginning Experience of Southwest

Minnesota, a peer ministry support group for widowed, separated and divorced people is offering a Weekend Retreat - "A Path to Healing" - A weekend providing an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope and purpose. The weekend retreat will be held at Shetek Lutheran Ministries and is scheduled for September 25-27, 2009. Early registrations are encouraged. Please contact Diana at 507-274-6551, Jean at 507-763-1594 or Pat at 507-829-3148.

**Bible Readings
For
July, 2009**

**Psalms
For
July, 2009**

1	Ezra	1-3	1	PSALM	82
2	Ezra	4-6	2	PSALM	83
3	Ezra	7-8	3	PSALM	83
4	Ezra	9-10	4	PSALM	84
5	Nehemiah	1-3	5	PSALM	84
6	Nehemiah	4-6	6	PSALM	85
7	Nehemiah	7-9	7	PSALM	85
8	Nehemiah	10-11	8	PSALM	86
9	Nehemiah	12-13	9	PSALM	86
10	Esther	1-3	10	PSALM	87
11	Esther	4-6	11	PSALM	87
12	Esther	7-8	12	PSALM	88
13	Esther	9-10	13	PSALM	88
14	Ephesians	1-2	14	PSALM	89:1-14
15	Ephesians	3-4	15	PSALM	89:1-14
16	Ephesians	5-6	16	PSALM	89:15-29
17	Philippians	1-2	17	PSALM	89:15-29
18	Philippians	3-4	18	PSALM	89:30-45
19	Job	1-3	19	PSALM	89:30-45
20	Job	4-6	20	PSALM	89:46-52
21	Job	7-9	21	PSALM	89:46-52
22	Job	10-12	22	PSALM	90
23	Job	13-15	23	PSALM	90
24	Job	16-18	24	PSALM	91
25	Job	19-21	25	PSALM	91
26	Job	22-24	26	PSALM	92
27	Job	25-27	27	PSALM	92
28	Job	28-30	28	PSALM	93
29	Job	31-33	29	PSALM	93
30	Job	34-36	30	PSALM	94
31	Job	37-38	31	PSALM	94