

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1200 4th Avenue

Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6148

Fax: (507) 376-6149

Email: felcwgtn@frontiernet.net

Website: felcwgtn.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

RICH LIAPIS, PRESIDENT –

(507) 727-6901

LONNIE MYROM, VICE PRESIDENT -

(507) 376-9039

DAREN BAUMAN, SECRETARY –

(507) 376-3612

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

Jacquie 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 am amazed that Lent is here once again. It
seems like we've just celebrated Christmas,
doesn't it? I am often asked what place
Lent has in our lives today. People tell me
that they just don't have the time to slow
down and look at their Christian faith. Life
is too busy, I am told, for such an exercise
in today's world. Other people have told
me that we are supposed to be living out
our lives in Christ everyday so why the
focus on Lent?

I too have struggled at times with the
season of Lent. I find myself busier at this
time of year than I want to be. I find that I
get very tired trying to keep up with all of
the added responsibilities that Lent brings.

Yes, it is true that we all have a lot to do
and times have changed. Yet, maybe the
real purpose of Lent is to gently nudge us
to look beyond our busy lives to notice
Jesus' presence in all that we do. Maybe,
just maybe, if we do that even for a few
minutes it will help us to realize what a gift
the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is
for us.

Knowing that, the interruption of our lives
by this season once again will be of great
worth to us.

God's peace,
Pastor Richard

Lessons and Themes for the Sundays in March, 2010:

3/7/10: 3rd Sunday in Lent

“Story of My Death”

Romans 6:15-23

Luke 13:1-9

3/14/10: 4th Sunday in Lent

“Crucifixion Story”

Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 18:31-43

3/21/10: 5th Sunday in Lent

“Resurrection Story”

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Mark 16:1-8

3/28/10: Palm Sunday

“Story of My Victory”

Psalms 23

Revelation 21:1-7

Matthew 21:1-11

Wednesday Worship in Lent

Join us as we continue exploring the Power of the Cross in our Lenten journey.

Remember to have supper with us between 5:00 and 6:15 pm; then join us for worship from 6:30 to 7:00 pm.

3/3 Mighty God - Isaiah 9:2-7 (this repeat of scripture is intentional)

3/10 King of Kings - Revelation 19:11-16

3/17 Messiah - John 1:35-46

3/24 Savior - John 3:16-21



Praise the Lord

The following is the financial report for First Lutheran as of January, 2010:

General Fund:

Bal. 12/31/09: (\$1,750.77)

Inc., January \$22,677.78

Exp., January \$28,935.32

Bal. 1/31/10: (\$8,008.31)

Building

Bal. 12/31/09: \$2,966.92

Inc., January \$1,254.00

Exp., January \$2,107.35

Bal. 1/31/10: \$2,113.57



DEATH & SYMPATHY: Edna Koster died February 13, 2010 at the age of 90 years. Her funeral service was held at First Lutheran on February 19, 2010. We extend our Christian sympathy to her family.



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: Ed Philipp

Van Driver:

3/7 Jim Hudson

3/14 Mike Vosburgh

3/21 Midg White

3/28 Mike Burns

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

3/7 8:00 Nick Demuth
Nathan Faragher
10:00 Logan Rogers
Nathan Patten
3/14 8:00 Miles Veen
Colton Poppema
10:00 Katie Randgaard
Troy Feller
3/21 8:00 Tyler Faragher
Sarah Waldner
10:00 Logan Rogers
Brianna Kraft
3/28 8:00 Nathan Russell
Trevor Wietzema
10:00 Troy Feller
Nathan Patten

Ushers (Contact Person: Julia Berger)

33/7 8:00 Courtney Faragher
10:00 Zachary Kempema
3/14 8:00 Lauren Stanton
10:00 Levi Severance
3/21 8:00 Logan Waldner
10:00 Jordan Gieselman
3/28 8:00 Lauren Stanton
10:00 Rebecca Christensen

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

3/3 6:30PM Betty Burns/Diana White
3/7 8:00 Kent & Valerie Wilkening
Family
10:00 Todd & Darcy Poppema
Family
3/10 6:30PM Al Luing/John Kramer
3/14 8:00 Roger & Linda Nelson
10:00 Gene & Charlene Wachter
3/17 6:30PM Keith & Mary Larson
3/21 8:00 Dave & Marjorie
Livingston
10:00 Al & Doris Selberg
3/24 6:30PM Gary & Judy Gerdes
3/28 8:00 Bob & Jane Benson
10:00 Jeff & Sandy Randall

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

3/7 8:00 Arnold Waldner
10:00 Al Selberg
3/14 8:00 Julia Berger
10:00 Karen Lewis
3/21 8:00 Linda Towne
10:00 Robert Bents
3/28 8:00 Cindy Russell
10:00 Glennis Pearson

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

3/7 Byron & Cindy Swart
Julia Berger/Barb Olson
3/14 Al & Doris Selberg
Gary & Marless Milbrath
3/21 Jeff & Theresa Rotert
Keith & Mary Larson
3/28 Daren & Julie Bauman
Dale & Debbie Koob

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

3/14 8 & 10 Margaret Erickson
3/28 8:00 Lisa Waldner
10:00 Rich Liapis

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

3/7 8:00 Leroy Merkel
10:00 Ryan McGaughey
3/21 8:00 John Vihlen
10:00 Lonnie Myrom

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

3/14 8 & 10 Cindy Swart
3/28 8 & 10 Brenda Hurlbut

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

3/7 8:00 Linda Towne
Paula Laffrenzen
10:00 Doris Selberg/Mary Larson
3/14 8:00 Lynnea Faragher Family
10:00 Gary & Marless Milbrath
3/21 8:00 Olivia Stanton
Kassie Wilkening
10:00 Marj Broich/Tami Rogers
3/28 8:00 Winora Hallstrom
Adeline Larson
10:00 Ryan & Rebecca
McGaughey

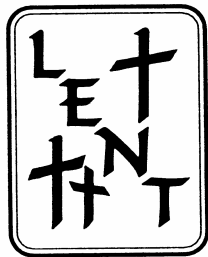
16 Janet Patten
16 Chad Randgaard
16 Allyson Rotert
18 Tegan Murray
19 Scott Kraft
19 Bailey Kruse
19 Daniel Kruse
19 Chad Larson
19 Olivia Stanton
20 Stephanie Olson
20 Lonny White
21 Ken McNab
21 Paul Selberg
21 Miles Veen
21 Fred Wietzema
22 David Fitzhugh
23 Marion Hallstrom
23 Gayden Wohlman
23 Calvin Zuehlke
24 Sharon Engelson
24 Joshua Kruse
24 Marie Mews
24 Michael Patten
24 Nathan Patten
25 Don Craun
25 Pam Fleming
25 Elden Good
25 Gordon Johnson
25 Kathryn Schreiber
26 Dana Larson
26 Keith Larson
27 Agnes Cross
28 DeLane Johnson
29 Vickie Peskey
29 Brenda Stanton
29 Elaine Weeks
30 Carter Como
30 Lynnea Faragher
30 Matthew Poppema
31 Joan Doeden

March Birthdays

1 Winora Hallstrom
1 Robert Strouth
3 Nathan Faragher
3 Ed Philipp
4 Merle Elsing
4 Margaret Hurlbut-Vosburgh
5 Helen Beckman
6 Kim Hellstrom
6 Alex Myrom
7 Ashlyn Schaffer
9 Gunnie Mahlberg
9 Aaliyah Schaffer
10 Dylan Livingston
10 Roger Nelson
10 Jasmine Ober
10 John Ricker
11 Marcelline Alliband
11 Melissa Lancaster
11 Merlin Robinson
12 Amy Lein
12 Nicole Murray
13 Worrell Bremer
13 Greg Kempema
13 Lori Nienkerk
13 Cassandra Wilkening
14 Terry Neugebauer
14 Colton Poppema
15 Erving Graf
15 Leroy Merkel
15 Paul Swanson



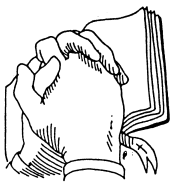
First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Hy-Vee, with the Hy-Vee Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 5% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the church office and between services on Sunday. We have \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100 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 use them. As of January 31, 2010 a total of **\$17,387.58** has been put into the general fund.



Thursday Lenten Luncheons for 2010

March 4th at First Lutheran Church
 March 11th at First United Methodist
 March 18th at American Lutheran
 March 25th at Westminster Presbyterian

Services will begin at 12:05 pm and end at 12:30 pm with lunch from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Each service will feature a different pastor. These services are ecumenical in nature. Please come and bring a friend!



Please call or email the office with any prayer concerns that you would like on the prayer chain or in the bulletin as Natalie will be managing the prayer chain for the immediate future. If any questions or concerns; speak with Natalie or Pastor Richard.

LENTEN SUPPERS @ FIRST

March 3rd – Men’s Group/Evangelism
 Hot dishes, bars and drink

March 10th – Worship & Music
 Chili & Chicken Noodle Soups

March 17th – Church Council
 Spaghetti

March 24th – Property/Finance

The meal will be served from 5:00 to 6:15 pm.



EASTER LILIES will be used at our Easter service on April 4th. If you would like to order one in memory or in honor of loved ones, contact the church office.

Please indicate if you will be picking them up after the 10:00 am service or if you will leave them here. **The cost for an Easter Lily will be \$10.** The deadline to have your order in is March 22nd. There will be **NO** orders taken after this date, so get your order in early.

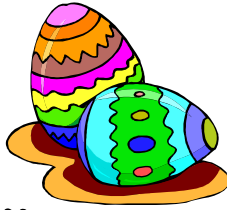


Reminder: On Sunday, March 14th the time changes. (Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour)

Dear First Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for the scholarship money that you gave me. It will be put to good use this semester as I continue my education at Minnesota State, Mankato.

Gods Peace, Josh Koob



The office will be closed
on Friday, April 2nd &
Monday, April 5th for the
Easter holiday.

MARCH IS FOOD SHELF

MONTH: One of the Evangelism Committee's local Mission projects is collecting food items and gift cards for the food shelves in Worthington. This year we will be collecting the items from March 1st through March 14th. There will be a table set up in Centennial Hall where you can place non-perishable food items. Hy-Vee cards can be handed to a member of the committee. Thank you for your generous giving for this mission project.

Seasoned Citizens: We will not be meeting in March. We encourage you to attend the Lenten Luncheons. Please check the schedule on page 4.

The new 2010 Flower chart is in the narthex. Hy-Vee will fill our vases for around \$20 a piece. Please feel free to sign up.

Attention all 5th graders and parents!!!!

First communion instruction will take place from 6:30 – 7:30 pm on these Sundays: March 7th, 14th, & 21st. Parents must be present with their children for these classes. Watch for further information coming to you shortly by letter.

March Snow

This isn't just a winter snow;
It's much too soft and warm.
Without the cold and freezing air,
It hath a spring like charm.
'Tis almost gentle on my cheek
As though it tried to say,
Do let me have this little time
For soon I'll melt away.

This isn't January snow –
For see, it's much too wet.
And certainly might prove to be
The very last we'll get.
The flakes are twirling in the air
As though they've surely found
Their beauty quickly fades from sight
When'ere they reach the ground.

This isn't really winter snow;
It's part of early spring,
A fond farewell to wintertime
Before the birds shall sing.
So very gentle in its way,
It brings a thrill to you;
A March snow soft against your cheek
Says winter's almost through.

The Sunday School Health Kit Project was a huge success! Together we made 56 health kits to send to Lutheran World Relief. Thank you very much to everyone who donated supplies and time for this project. It was a very tangible way for the kids to learn about serving others and they appreciate the congregations support! Take a moment to think about and pray for a person who receives one of these kits. Your ordinary gift will be an extraordinary blessing to them!

**Bible Readings
For
March, 2010**

1	Deuteronomy	22-24
2	Deuteronomy	25-27
3	Deuteronomy	28-30
4	Deuteronomy	31-32
5	Deuteronomy	33-34
6	Mark	1-2
7	Mark	3-4
8	Mark	5-6
9	Mark	7-8
10	Mark	9-10
11	Mark	11-12
12	Mark	13-14
13	Mark	15-16
14	Romans	1-2
15	Romans	3-4
16	Romans	5-6
17	Romans	7-8
18	Romans	9-10
19	Romans	11-12
20	Romans	13-14
21	Romans	15-16
22	Joshua	1-3
23	Joshua	4-6
24	Joshua	7-9
25	Joshua	10-12
26	Joshua	13-15
27	Joshua	16-18
28	Joshua	19-21
29	Joshua	22-24
30	Judges	1-3
31	Judges	4-6

The Gospel of Mark is the earliest Gospel. Romans is Paul's great letter on sin and grace. Joshua is the story of the Israelites coming into the Promised Land.

**Psalms
For
March, 2010**

1.	PSALM	27
2.	PSALM	28
3.	PSALM	28
4.	PSALM	29
5.	PSALM	29
6.	PSALM	30
7.	PSALM	30
8.	PSALM	31
9.	PSALM	31
10.	PSALM	32
11.	PSALM	32
12.	PSALM	33
13.	PSALM	33
14.	PSALM	34
15.	PSALM	34
16.	PSALM	35
17.	PSALM	35
18.	PSALM	36
19.	PSALM	36
20.	PSALM	37:1-13
21.	PSALM	37:1-13
22.	PSALM	37:14-26
23.	PSALM	37:14-26
24.	PSALM	37:27-40
25.	PSALM	37:27-40
26.	PSALM	38
27.	PSALM	38
28.	PSALM	39
29.	PSALM	39
30.	PSALM	40
31.	PSALM	40

Read the Psalms 'prayerfully.' Let God speak through the cries of the writer. Let Him speak to your heart in these words.

YOUTH NEWS

This year I had a difficult time trying to think of something I could give up for Lent. A few years ago I gave up crossing my legs. Now you may think that is nonsense, but since varicose veins run in my family and crossing my legs increased that risk, it was more of a better living issue. Then last year I gave up candy and pop. Each year I try not to just give something up for Lent, but to live my life differently, better. While I may slip up from time to time on the sweets especially; I have been very good about sticking to my lifestyle changes. So for the last few years I have worked on just me things in my life. This year my challenge is much greater than that of my sweet tooth. This Lenten season I am trying to give up one of the more difficult sins for me; complaining. It may not seem like much of a sin, complaining, but it can breed discord and mistrust.

How many times a day do you complain about little things that just won't change? It could be about the behavior of your friends, parents, children, or teachers. It could be about the weather, or lack thereof. It could be about school food, or money, or the economy. We sure do find a lot of things wrong with our lives, whether minor or major to complain about. And, yes, every once and a while getting things off your back can be helpful but instead of just whining about things, lets either rejoice in the good, or work towards making things better.

I say lets rejoice in the good because some things we just don't have the power to change. In 1 Thessalonians, Chapter five it says to give thanks in all circumstances. I don't know about you but there are some things in life that I just can't be thankful for. Like the recent death of my friend Ben Larson. However, what I can be thankful for is the fact that I knew such a strong spiritual leader, and that I still have his music as a comfort and constant reminder of the Christian that I desire to be. Give thanks in ALL circumstances. This is my challenge this Lenten season and afterwards. To work towards a better existence, to live as God wishes me to live, to thank Him for the many blessings that I usually ignore. What are you

thankful for this season? I am thankful for my family. Both my immediate family and my soon to be relatives, including my soon to be husband! I am thankful for the opportunity to work with the youth here, and for the parents who are driven to be spiritual leaders in this building and their families. I am thankful for food every day, and the support of prayers. What a blessing it is to have all that I have.

God's Peace,
Amy

Youth Updates:

* Schedules for Y.F.C in 2010 are posted outside Amy's office, on the board between the bathrooms, and on our church website. Take a look and see what our youth will be doing and learning on Wednesday nights. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to Amy.

*Youth Silent Auction/Quilt Raffle is underway! Place your bids now on the wonderful items up for bid on this year's Youth Silent Auction. Additionally, you could become one of the proud owners of one of the lovely quilts that are up for raffle this year by purchasing your raffle tickets for only \$1.00 per chance. The silent auction and quilt raffle ends Sunday, March 21st at 11:30 am. Auction/raffle winners will be contacted Sunday, March 21st so please be sure to include your phone number when placing a bid. All items will be available for pickup Wednesday, March 24th from 7-8:30 pm. During this time the youth will be serving you desserts and beverages as a way of thanking you for your continued support and generosity. Plan to stay awhile and watch a presentation illustrating our youth as they put their faith into action! Contact Marie Livingston (507-360-7080) or Amy Lein (507-376-6148) with any questions.

* There is a new cell phone number for Amy (507-329-2593). Finally, a local number!