

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
1200 4th Avenue
Worthington, MN 56187
(507) 376-6148
Fax: (507) 376-6149
Email: felcwgt@gmail.com
Website: felcwgt.org

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 am—12:00 pm
1:00—4:30 pm
Monday—Friday

WORSHIP: 6:00 pm—Wednesday
9:30 am—Sunday

COMMUNION: Wednesday
First & Third Sunday

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 8:45 am (Sept–May)

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

June
2023

Evangel

HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY!

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Erin Makela,
(320) 223-3713

VICE PRESIDENT – Matt Russell,
(507) 360-5835

SECRETARY – Sandy Poppema,
(507) 360-3797

CHURCH STAFF

Jeanette McCormick—Pastor

Natalie Zinnel—Administrative Secretary/
Co-Treasurer

Brenda Richards—Youth & Family Director

Todd Poppema—Custodian

Eric Parrish—Choir Director/Worship Planner

Lori Nienkerk—Choir Accompanist/
Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Cindy Anderson—Pianist

Nancy Hofstee—Organist

Arlene Lowe—Co-Treasurer

Debbie Koob—Financial Secretary

Jim & Paula Laffrenzen—Parish Visitors

PASTOR JEANETTE'S ARTICLE

Dear First Lutheran,

One of the best ways the ELCA lifts up our global connection to brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world is through our Companion Synod Program. ELCA synods throughout the USA are paired with other Lutheran synods throughout the world. Every synod coordinates how they will celebrate and lift up the partnership, but most companion synods promote and sponsor travel between the locations, educational opportunities and the sharing of financial resources. During my time serving in the South Dakota synod, I had the opportunity to travel to Nicaragua, the companion synod of that place. During that trip, we shared stories, music and knowledge. I left with a much deeper sense of “connectedness” to the global church compared to before I had traveled there. Companion synods truly are a blessing for our church. More than just a USA synod helping a synod in a less well off country, the ELCA strives to promote mutual learning and accompaniment. In this model, everyone has something to learn and everyone has something to offer to the relationship.

Southwestern MN Synod has a unique model where different conferences within the synod are paired with corresponding conferences in South Africa. Our Shetek Conference is paired with the Ondini circuit of Africa. People from Shetek have traveled to South Africa several times, learning about the activities, strengths and needs of that place. Likewise, South Africans have traveled to our community several times and participated in fellowship, worship and learning activities. In the past, the trips have largely focused on the agricultural practices of both places. Participants have learned about the techniques used in both cultures and communities.

As many of you have heard, the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on the Ondini Circuit. Many pastors and parishioners alike died. Others had no means to receive payment for their work and were facing harsh economic circumstances and even starvation.

The Ondini Circuit has been in the process of rebuilding and strengthening their church body. Just like in the Southwestern MN Synod, they have a new bishop and many of their pastors/deacons have moved to serving new locations. Since this rebuilding process has been so significant, it has been decided that there will be no travel groups during this year between the two church bodies. Shetek Lutheran Ministries, however, will be hosting a young adult from South Africa this summer, Sicelo Masando. He will serve as a counselor for campers throughout the summer. Likewise, the Shetek-Ondini Partnership Committee is looking for new members who would like to help coordinate, promote and foster the connection between our synods. **Anyone who would like to participate in this project is encouraged to attend the partnership meeting on Sunday, May 21 at 6:30 pm at Shetek Lutheran Ministries.** The group is preparing to host South Africans in Southwestern MN in 2024.

Likewise, on June 25, we will celebrate “Uhambisano Sunday” at First Lutheran. That is, we will intentionally include prayers and music to reflect and lift up our connection between our synods. Our partner congregations in South Africa will be doing the same. Uhambisano means, “walking together, joining in fellowship” in South Africa’s native language of Zulu and we give thanks for this opportunity to do precisely this. Please join us!

Gratefully,

Rev. Jeanette McCormick



Lessons and Themes for the Sundays in June, 2023:

6/4/23: The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

6/11/23: 2nd Sunday of Pentecost

Hosea 5:15-6:6

Psalm 50:7-15

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

6/18/23: 3rd Sunday of Pentecost

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:23

6/25/23: 4th Sunday of Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalm 69:7-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Praise the Lord

The following is the financial report for First Lutheran as of April, 2023:

General Fund:

Bal. 3/31/23: (\$18,353.23)

Inc., April \$21,976.95

Exp., April \$27,953.33

Bal. 4/30/23: (\$24,329.61)

Building Fund:

Bal. 3/31/23: \$12,889.98

Inc., April \$3,361.43

Exp., April \$0.00

Bal. 4/30/23: \$16,251.41



Card Ministry meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Come join the fun. No experience necessary! Check

out our display in Centennial Hall to purchase a card for \$1. Funds will be designated to different groups as needed.



ATTENTION All Bikers: The annual motorcycle blessing is Sunday, June 4 at 2:00 pm. Come to the church parking lot, bring all your friends and receive a special blessing. Refreshments to follow.



Camperships are available! The Memorials and Gifts Team is offering camperships for anyone who is attending camp. To request a campership, just write a letter to the Memorials and Gift Team and put it in Karen Buchman's box across from the office. Those attending a week long camp will receive \$100 and those attending a three day camp will receive \$50. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Buchman at 376-3225.

Servants

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If for any reason you are unable to serve at the time 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. This is a temporary schedule for the month so it may change. Thank you.

Computer Assistant (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

6/4	9:30	Glenda Lais
6/11	9:30	Kathy Summers
6/18	9:30	Pam Fleming
6/25	9:30	Ryan McGaughey

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

6/4	9:30	Ashlyn Schaffer
6/11	9:30	Aaden Wagner
6/18	9:30	Kylee Milbrath
6/25	9:30	Ashlynn Schaffer

Assisting Minister & Lector (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

6/4	9:30	Matt Russell
6/11	9:30	Sandy Poppema
6/18	9:30	Karla Kirkeby
6/25	9:30	Paula Laffrenzen

Van Driver: (Van will be picking up members for the Sunday service only)

6/4	9:30	Larry Woodbury (360-2689)
6/11	9:30	Matt Russell (360-5835)
6/18	9:30	Ron Hallstrom (360-7891)
6/25	9:30	Daren Bauman (360-9275)

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

6/4	9:30	Sandy Poppema, Fern Burmeister & Daren & Julie Bauman
6/11	9:30	Dale & Debbie Koob & Diane Sletten
6/18	9:30	Ed Philipp & Larry & Norma Woodbury
6/25	9:30	Josh, Ashley, Miles & Ady Hein

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

6/4	9:30	Josh, Ashley, Miles & Ady Hein
6/11	9:30	Todd Hallstrom & John Kramer
6/18	9:30	John & Nora Leinen
6/25	9:30	Karla Kirkeby & Sandy Poppema

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

6/4	9:30	Doug Frisch
6/11	9:30	Pat Demuth
6/18	9:30	Kevin Fleming
6/25	9:30	Doug Frisch

What Makes a Dad

God took the strength of a mountain, The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun, The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature, The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages, The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring, The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity, The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities, When there was nothing
more to add, He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad—**Author Unknown**

Facebook Live (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

6/4	9:30	Aaron Hagen
6/11	9:30	Carrie Adams
6/18	9:30	Terry Morrison
6/25	9:30	Debbie Koob

June Birthdays



1	Eric White	14	Shari Joens	23	Rosemary Merkel
2	Bruce Amundson	15	Decklan Hurlbut	24	Benjamin Potts
2	Everly Scripture	15	Linda Nelson	24	Trysten Stamer
4	Desmund Bixby	16	Elayne Rothbarth	26	Laura Christensen
4	Irene Janke	17	Dawson Frodermann	26	Robin Negrete
5	Kirk Vogen	18	Dustin Poppema	26	Joseph Ternus
6	Doug Frisch	18	Rhett Lowe	27	Karen Lewis
6	Gary Gerdes	19	Jane Benson	29	Elsie Wajer
8	Charlene Wachter	19	Kelli Peters-Smith	30	Marilyn Frisch
9	Tyler Nienkerk	19	Amber Wajer	30	Brock Schroeder
11	Nicholas Nelson	19	Larry Woodbury	30	Isaiah Casanova
12	Brenda Hurlbut	20	Alan Waage		
13	Cindy Swart	21	Allen Thiner		
14	Heidi Tarus	22	Arond Peil		



“Keep Your Eyes on Jesus”

“Persevere as Jesus persevered.”

Lew Kraft used to drive his horse, Paddy, from store to store, selling cheese products. As he did, he talked to Paddy about his dreams.

But in spite of the long hours and hard work, Lew’s sales remained low and his debts high. One day someone told him bluntly, “Lew, you’re either too stubborn to admit it or too dumb to see it, but you’re licked.”

But Lew refused to give up. He continued to visit stores and talk to Paddy about his dreams. Today, the multimillion-dollar Kraft Company stands as a monument to a man who persevered in a dream until it came true.

It was the same kind of perseverance that Hebrews 12:1-4 exhorts us to have. It was the same kind of perseverance that Jesus himself had.

How do we keep our motivation high when we become discouraged and are tempted to quit?

Illustrated Daily Homilies by Mark Lick, SJ



Radio Broadcast: You can sponsor the broadcast in memory or in honor of a family member or an event in your life. The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$75.00. Please sign up on the sheet in Centennial Hall. Thank you.



First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Fareway, with the Fareway Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 5% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the

church office. We have \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 5%. As of April 30, 2023, a total of \$6,094.99 has been put into the general fund.

Gift Cards will be available on communion Sunday mornings in Centennial Hall and in the office during the week.



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. We have \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 5%. **The card can also be used when you purchase gas.** As of April 30, 2023, a total of \$55,596.50 has been put into the general fund.



Please join us after church on Wednesday nights beginning June 14 for ice cream! Every Wednesday thru August 9, ice cream and toppings will be served in the church parking lot. It's easy and fun to be part of this ministry

to our church and community. If you would like to help serve ice cream, give me a call at 507-370-4218. There is not much work, a short time commitment and lots of smiling faces.

Mary Ingenthron

Welcome

My service as an active, full time ELCA pastor will conclude on June 30. I have a lot to do in a lot of places, but I am very

excited to begin the first week in July to share pastoral ministries with you as a volunteer.

I have spoken with your council and know Pastor Jeanette very well. Together with you I look forward to spending some time looking for the least and the lost of our Lord's sisters and brothers. And yes, thank you for making an office for me to start. I plan to be in it at least for a little bit on Monday's and Wednesday's, as I am able, and of course I can always be reached by phone.

Pastor Martin (507-840-0483)



BAPTISM: We welcomed Hayes Paul Lowe, son of Nate & Mariah Lowe to the family of God through Holy Baptism on Sunday, April 23, 2023. Sponsors are Brandon & Maegan Romsdahl and Sam & Kara Koch. Welcome to the Lord's family, Hayes.



Join us on June 4 to celebrate Natalie's 25th Anniversary at First Lutheran! Worship at 9:30 am with coffee and cake to follow. Help us make it a special day for Natalie and show our appreciation for all she does for First Lutheran.

College Scholarship Information

High School Seniors and Current College Students

We have put together two information sheets regarding college scholarship financial assistance. Copies are available from the church office after you receive your letter. One is for the “FELC Scholarship” which is potentially available to students attending ANY institution of higher learning. Committee members are Don Craun, Jason Gerdes and Josh Hein.

The other is for the “First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Worthington, Minnesota Scholarship Fund” – commonly called the “LEE ANDERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND”. Eligibility includes college sophomores or higher attending a LUTHERAN COLLEGE OR SEMINARY. Even though **freshman are not eligible**, they SHOULD still complete an application in May of their high school graduation year so their name is put on the list for future consideration. This is explained more on the information sheet. Rolf Mahlberg is the Trustee representing First Lutheran. Stop in or call the church office (376-6148) for copies of either or both information sheets. They contain more information about submission date deadlines and other details.

As soon as you know that you plan to attend an institution of higher learning (even though you may not have yet selected a specific school) please call the church office to enable Natalie to get your name on the list so she can send applications to all interested students. Natalie will send out scholarship application letters in May. You only need to complete ONE application – it will be used by both scholarship committees if you are attending a Lutheran school. Applications should be submitted to the church office by June 30.



FELC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR POST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Each year any student from FELC is eligible to apply for a FELC Scholarship. The applicant needs to be a graduating high school student or someone currently attending an institution of higher education such as a community college, a state college or private four year college, etc. The amount of the scholarship given will vary and is contingent upon the activity of the investments during the preceding year. Principal amounts for these investments have come from bequests by various members, memorials and personal donations.

High school graduates continuing their education can apply for a scholarship as well as currently enrolled students at higher education establishments. **STUDENTS DO NEED TO APPLY EVERY YEAR** by June 30 (If you applied last year, you have a shorter application to fill out) to be considered for a scholarship for the ensuing academic year. Criteria for a scholarship will emphasize participation and achievement in service to church and community beginning at confirmation entry up to the present time. Applications are available at the Church Office.

Questions may be directed to the FELC Scholarship Committee members: Don Craun, Jason Gerdes and Josh Hein.

Note: This scholarship is NOT the same as the “Lee Anderson Scholarship Fund”.

JUNE YOUTH NEWS

Summer is soon upon us and we are kicking it off in full swing with lots of activities going on this month!

COMMUNITY KIDS CAMP is happening the first week of June! We are doing a community VBS this year and joining with several area churches. Please join us for Community Kids Camp at the Methodist Church (408 11th St, Worthington) on June 5-8th from 5:30-8:00 pm. Dinner will be served starting at 5:30, families are welcome to join.

This year for the mission project we are collecting supplies for emergency care kits for kids in need in Worthington. We are collecting in three different ways: donating money, donating items of need or filling a backpack with age/gender appropriate items. Items needed: socks, underwear, toothbrush/toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner, hairbrush/comb, body wash, deodorant, small blanket, small stuffed animal, notebook/journal, crayons, pens, colored pencils, markers, baby clothes, sleep sacks, diapers. If you would like to donate to the cause, feel free to add items to the bucket in Centennial Hall. THANKS!

Our high school mission trip will be here VERY SOON! We have seven youth from Grace Lutheran and First Lutheran going to Denver, CO. We will be working with youthworks and serve in a variety of different ways while we are there. We will come alongside organizations meeting the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness as well as the ongoing needs of under-resourced people in the community. Students may serve all or part of the week at a food shelf, clothing distribution center, soup kitchen, or children's program. We will leave early on the morning of June 17 and return late on June 24. Please keep us in your prayers as we travel and spend the week serving those in need.

The last full week of June we have a couple of kids going to Shetek camp for the week. Thanks for your support because without it, scholarships would not be available.

Last year's rummage sale was a HUGE success! I'm excited to let you know that on August 18-19 we will be having our youth group rummage sale again. We hope to make it an even BIGGER success than last year! In order to do that we need your help. If you know of friends, family or neighbors that need to get rid of stuff (or are moving) encourage them to donate their stuff to our sale. We will start setting up after church on Sunday, August 13. After that you will be able to bring your donations to Centennial Hall. We have limited space to store donations before then but feel free to bring any donations to the **Sunday School room** as long as there's space. We cannot accept mattresses or older (CRT) TVs as we have to pay to dispose of them if they do not sell. *If you need help getting your stuff here, contact Brenda Richards for a pick-up.*



THANKS SO MUCH for your continued support of the youth program. We could not do what we do without you! Your prayers and support are very much appreciated!



June 2023



14 Keeley Island Drive
Slayton, MN 56172
507-763-3567
camp@shetek.org
www.shetek.org

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



*Work at camp this summer! -
shetek.org/work-at-shetek*



*Check out our quilts online at [Shetek.org](https://shetek.org)
You can email in your bid ahead of the auction.*

Mark your Calendar

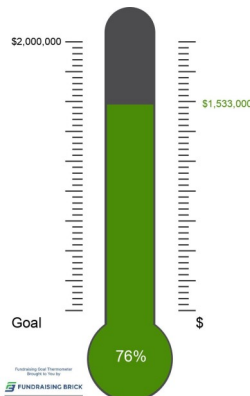
June 11 First Day of Camp
June 19 Golf Tournament 8:30 am
June 23 Quilt Preview 5:00-8:00 pm
June 23 Picnic Supper 5:30-7:00 pm
June 24 Pelican 5K Walk/Run 7:30 am
June 24 Quilt Auction 10:30 am
June 24 Pulled Pork Dinner 11:00 am-
1:00 pm

Register at shetek.org or
Call 507-763-3567 for more
Information

Wish List

*17 foot Aluminum canoe
Vest style life jackets
Office supplies – reams of paper
Good Vacuums
Volunteers*

We met our Phase 1 goal!
\$1,533,000 in gifts and
pledges! Our challenge
goal is \$2,000,000 and
with increased costs, our
budget has changed for
our different phases.
More info on our website.
[https://shetek.org/slm-
master-plan/](https://shetek.org/slm-master-plan/)



Help send kids to Camp!

Become a Pelican Club or Timber Society member today. Pelican Club members support the ministry with a gift of \$100 - \$499 a year and Timber Society members give \$500 or more a year. Thanks for your support!