



GOOD NEWS!

OCTOBER 2019

All of this and more on the web at www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

SEE ALSO...

[facebook.com/1stlu](https://www.facebook.com/1stlu)

[instagram.com/1stlu](https://www.instagram.com/1stlu)

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[#faithalive365](https://www.facebook.com/firstlu)

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PHILIPPIANS 2:4

*Let each of you look not to your own interests,
but to the interests of others.*

During September you have had the chance enjoy five videos presented by members passionate about ministries that Change Lives in our church, community and the world. If you have not had a chance to view them, check the website or our Facebook page. The videos highlighted the 80 years of compassion and help provided by the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Mark Koenig explained what superheroes our Stephen Ministers are. We discovered how the quilts from First change lives in distant lands. Our Green Team presentation showed what a difference we can make by being environmentally conscious. Lastly, we learned the great news of the work ELCA World Hunger is doing to provide clean water and food. These are just five examples of how your financial contribution Changes Lives. Four more ministries will be presented in October, take time to enjoy how you are Changing Lives.

Shortly you will receive a save-the-date postcard reminding you of the dates for Invitation Week (week of October 27). During Invitation Week, we will celebrate the many ways we Change Lives with special music during worship, tasty goodies after each service and displays highlighting the many ministries at First Lutheran Church that Change Lives.

In mid-October you will receive an RSVP card for Invitation Week. You can Change more Lives by returning your card before or during the week of October 27, with a commitment to increase your financial contribution for the coming year.

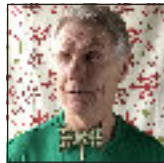
Enjoy the stories!
We look forward to seeing you Invitation Week..

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KARYN

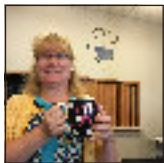


THERE IS SO much going on at First Lutheran right now! Some days it is hard to keep track of it all, and those are the days I am most grateful for our

amazing staff. Each of them is deeply faithful and dedicated to their work so that life at First runs well and provides meaningful programming, communication and hospitality to all who walk into our church. As we look at how the work of First Lutheran changes lives, I wanted to offer you a peek into what our staff does to make that happen.



Mike and Jerry make sure that not only is the church clean but also safe and running well. Under the direction of Mike, a team of members has been faithful in their call to steward our buildings so that the work of ministry can happen. Mike and Jerry are always willing to jump into some crazy plan I (or someone else) may have. Let's be honest, it is usually me. As Mike says: I am the inspiration, and he (and his team) is the perspiration!



Kathryn thinks through the experience of both our members and visitors from the time they enter our parking lot until the time they leave. Hospitality isn't just a buzz word for her and her team. She spends time in research and conversation as she ponders how we can show Jesus' love better. She supervises Cassie, our nursery supervisor and together they have worked to make the experience of

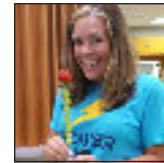
our youngest members meaningful. Cassie oversees an ever growing nursery staff that cares for these youngest in our midst when they are not in worship with us or when their parents are leading or learning.



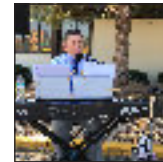
Bridget is our equipper. She makes sure that we are learning and growing by overseeing our adult small groups and learning opportunities and our Community Outreach Teams. She is amazing at equipping the people in our congregation to do the work they are being called to, and she has an incredible knack for knowing the perfect person for any given job. This fall she is acting as a resource to our Green Team, organizing our Faith Alive! U courses, preparing for our Lent conversations, leading our involvement in the Hunger Walk and coordinating the ELCA nights at the warming shelter, all while being an active member of our congregation and our synod.



Andy is our communicator, directing all of the myriad ways we communicate with you and the greater community. It is a daunting task that he brings great talent to. This fall he is working closely with the Change a Life team to produce their videos and posters each week. He is the one who often gets my first, "what do you think about this" moments because I know he is going to bring not only a communicator's eye to it but a creative person's heart. His work often amazes me, and I am continually inspired by him, as are many of us.



Beth makes sure that all our kids, from birth to 5th grade, know God and know they are loved. She works tirelessly to make sure that our Sunday School teachers are well resourced and supported, researches the best ways to support parents as they seek faithful ways to raise their kids, gives our kids ways to serve and gather each month, and she gives her whole self to her work. Beth also oversees our VBS each summer and under her leadership we have seen our volunteer numbers grow and our kids get pumped up for Jesus! She does all of this while teaching in our preschool and raising her own kids. Her energy and commitment to our kids overflows to the rest of us as we catch her excitement and joy. She is also the other extrovert on staff, which I appreciate.



Todd and Gabe. As a musician and artist, I could not appreciate these two more, and being a pastor of a church with such stellar musicians who love Jesus and church makes it such a great joy each week to serve with them. These two put in a lot of time to prepare what we hear during worship, studying the scripture we will be hearing, doing the research needed to know what music is out there that will fit with what we are doing at First and considering what would lift you up and strengthen you in your life. Todd leads our choir and praise band, encouraging

Continues on page 3



410 Main St.
Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650
608.783.2236
Fax: 608.783.3741
office@firstlu.org
www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30AM
Wednesday 6:15 PM

SUBMITTING NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

To have your announcement in the monthly newsletter, send it to newsletter@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the newsletter is always noon on the 15th of the month. To have your announcement in the weekly announcements pages handed out each weekend, send it to announcements@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the weekly announcements is always noon each Wednesday.

First Lutheran is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

them and preparing them to lead worship. Gabe works with our families as they plan weddings and funerals and coordinates with any special musicians for those events. Both meet regularly with us pastors to ensure that when we worship we do so with integrity and an eye toward excellence. Let us not forget, they also have day jobs.

Diana is the newest member of our staff, overseeing our finances and making sure we pay our bills and our employees. I look forward to getting to know her better as she settles in to our hectic world. From my few encounters with her, I am sure we will get along famously!



Tamara keeps it all together, overseeing the movement of all the staff and groups that use our space, keeping track of our members and making sure our information is up-to-date. She is the one who answers your phone call or greets you with a smile when you come to the office. Without her, I would be lost. Her deep, faithful commitment to the members of First Lutheran is something to be admired as she compassionately cares for each person who comes in our doors.



Melissa leads our amazing preschool staff, who, nurture the 3 and 4 year olds that come each day. They do this with grace and love. It is one of the best perks of my job that my office overlooks the playground. My days are always brightened when I hear them playing outside. I am continually amazed at the time and energy Melissa and her staff put into making First Lutheran Preschool one of the best in our area.

As pastors, Jason and I are incredibly blessed to work with these amazing people and watch as their passions merge with yours and God does what seems like impossible things. Your continued generosity to First Lutheran Church helps us change lives through the work of our staff. Thank you to our staff for their hard work, and thank you to you for supporting them.

Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz
karyn@firstlu.org

Warming Center Volunteer Training Dates

Preparing for the 2019-2020 Season!



First Lutheran is joining with other area ELCA congregations to support the Warming Center this winter. The Warming Center is a local shelter in downtown La Crosse, that serves up to 40 guests staying over night, from November 1–April 30. The center provides a warm place and a meal for people in our community who are without other options. It's a truly life-saving service to the guests and makes a difference in our community.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

ELCA churches have committed to providing volunteers and meals the first two Fridays of each month, from November through April. Volunteers are needed to greet and sign in guests, put away their personal items, get them assigned to a spot in the sleeping room, help in the kitchen and visit with the guests, and be on hand overnight to do some cleaning or visit with folks who aren't sleeping. There are early evening shifts 6:30-9pm, overnight shifts 9pm-11pm, or 9pm-3am, 3am-8am, and early morning shifts 6:30-8am, serving breakfast and helping people get on their way for the day. The shelter closes at 8am each

morning. We also need people who are willing to provide a meal for those first two Fridays/month. Each person is asked to provide a meal to feed 20 people. You can contact

The Hunger Task Force for the ingredients, just tell them you are preparing a meal for the Warming Center. Make a meal with friends, or do it as a family.

If you think your might be interested in volunteering, come to a training session to get a tour and learn about what you will be doing as a volunteer.

- **Oct. 8 sessions:**
1-2pm or 6-7pm
- **Oct. 9 sessions:**
1-2pm or 6-7pm
- **Oct. 10 sessions:**
1-2pm or 6-7pm

De-Escalation training is also available October 15 and 16, 6-7:30pm. If you cannot make either of those two dates do not worry because a monthly training will be offered! Pizza will be provided; RSVP for the de-escalation training by October 14 directly to Leticia Silva lsilva@cdlse.org

All training sessions will take place at the Warming Center located at 413 Third Street South in La Crosse.

Bridget Crave
bridget@firstlu.org

CAP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

PLEGGED DOLLARS:

\$1,058,518

GIFTS RECEIVED:

\$686,617

PROJECTS COMPLETED:

HVAC CONTROLS

ED BUILDING ROOF

PARKING LOT REPAIRS

TREES REMOVED

WIFI UPGRADE

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

3 AC UNITS REPLACED

COMING SOON:

EXTERNAL SIGNAGE



For 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has been a champion for refugees and migrants from around the globe.



AS MEMBERS OF First Lutheran Church and through our financial gifts we commit to bringing people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Through our unique place in our community and the size of our congregation, we are able to Change the Lives of people of all ages and make more disciples of Christ. One of the significant ways we reach out is through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. For 80 years, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has been a champion for refugees and migrants from around the globe. Our legacy of compassionate service has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have found safety and

hope in America's communities. Our history reflects American Lutherans' deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those who are most in need. Thank you for your support.

Through August, we have received 89.1% of the year-to-date budgeted general fund income. Thank you to everyone for your continued generosity. The number of families enrolled in Simply Giving is a big reason for our financial success. We are very close to having half of our families using this convenient way to support God's work through First Lutheran. Thank you to everyone enrolled. If you have not enrolled in this easy and convenient way to grow our outreach and change more lives,

you can do so on the website at 1stlu.org/giving or stop by the church office.

Capital Campaign update: In September the Fireside Room kitchen was remodeled. This included new floor, countertop, plumbing and microwave. It is much appreciated by the groups that use that room. Planning is underway for replacement of the sanctuary roof. It is great to report we have received over 64% of the pledged income for the capital campaign. Thank you for continuing to meet your pledge. Full financial details are available by request in the church office. We welcome everyone to attend a finance committee meeting. We meet every month, on the second Wednesday at noon. The coffee is free, but bring your own lunch. The Stewardship Committee meets once a month and is looking for members. For meeting times, contact Pastor Stanton.

Faithfully submitted,

The Finance and Stewardship Committees

2019 SMALL GROUPS

Weekly Groups:

Coffee with Pastor Karyn

Courageous Men

Knitters

Middle & High School
Youth Groups

Parent Share

Quilters

Sunday Morning
with Coffee

Monthly Groups:

Drawing from the Well

Grief Support Group

OWLs
(Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Deborah Circle

Dorcas Circle

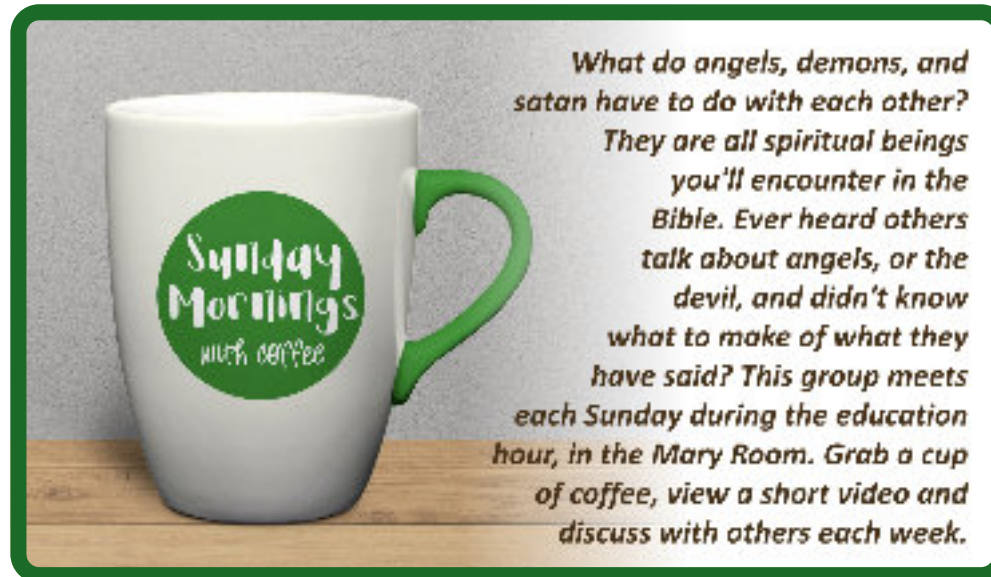
Elizabeth Circle

READINGS FOR OCTOBER

Wednesday, Oct 2	Exodus 1:8–14 [1:15–2:10]; 3:1–15
Sunday, Oct 6	Luke 17:5-10
Wednesday, Oct 9	Deuteronomy 5:1–21; 6:4–9
Sunday, Oct 13	Luke 17:11-19
Wednesday, Oct 16	Ruth 1:1–17
Sunday, Oct 20	Luke 18:1-8
Wednesday, Oct 23	2 Samuel 5:1–5; 6:1–5; Psalm 150
Sunday, Oct 27	Luke 18:9-14
Wednesday, Oct 30	1 Kings 12:1–17, 25–29

Above are the tentative readings scheduled for October. Readings used during worship are determined by the pastors on a weekly basis, and therefore are subject to change.

You can also view this list online and subscribe to receive them as an email at 1stlu.org/readings.



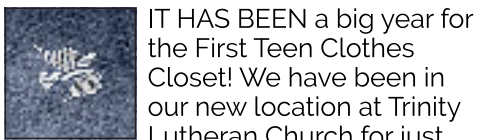
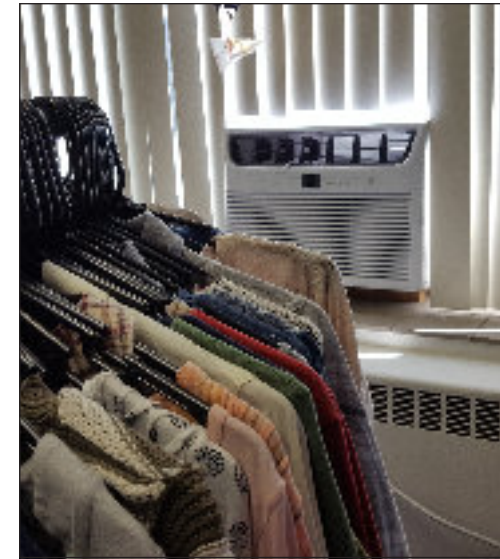
**FAITH
ALIVE! U**

First offers courses for all-ages to explore, question and learn about your faith. Presented in the sanctuary.

Reconciling in Christ: What It Is, Why It Matters and How to Do It

**Pastor Libby Howe
Sunday, Oct. 13, 6pm**

The voices in our world that degrade and exclude LGBTQIA people in the name of God are still too many, too loud and can cause deadly harm. Come and learn how our congregation can become a voice of unapologetic welcome, a community of blessing and inclusion, and a public advocate for justice alongside our LGBTQIA friends and neighbors.



IT HAS BEEN a big year for the First Teen Clothes Closet! We have been in our new location at Trinity Lutheran Church for just over a year, and in that year we have served more than 275 individual teens from at least 24 area middle schools and high schools through our Monday night shopping hours, private appointments and the annual Trinity Lutheran Church block party and shoe distribution. (The shoe distribution alone set more than 170 teens up for the school year with a pair of new shoes).

By Sept. 1, 2019, our year-to-date numbers include having provided teens from La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, La Crescent and surrounding communities with:

- 300+ pairs of pants, shorts, capris and skirts
- 400 casual and dress shirts and sweaters
- 100 hoodies and jackets
- 200+ pairs of underwear (purchased new)

- 275+ pairs of socks (purchased new)
- 150+ bras (purchased new)
- 150 sticks of deodorant
- 75 toothbrushes

This compares to 250 pairs of pants, shorts & capris; 300 shirts, sweaters and hoodies; 150 pairs of socks; and 50 toothbrushes during the same time period in 2017.

This outreach is funded through a combination of congregational support, grants from community organizations, individual and business donors (who donate money, clothing and/or toiletries) and volunteers.

Among the biggest changes in the last two months have been the installation of air conditioning units in four of the five main rooms occupied by the First Teen Clothes Closet and construction of new dressing room dividers so teens can try on their new clothes. Huge thanks go to volunteers Don and Darcy Skibba, who acquired a grant to help fund the AC, then researched options and worked with

the Trinity Lutheran Church council, and also to Mike Peper and his volunteer crew who installed the AC units. We also appreciate the generosity of the Berg family, who donated room dividers for the dressing rooms and the efforts of David Lee to build supports and get it all set up.

Volunteers sort donations, shop for necessities, host Monday night shopping and special appointments and organize the closet each week, collectively contributing at least 60 hours a month to this effort. If you are interested in assisting us in any of these areas, please talk to a committee member or contact the church office.

All the hard work is paying off as more community members are becoming aware of the resource all the time. The First Teen Clothes Closet has been chosen as the La Crosse Public Library's "Non-Profit of the Month" for October, providing additional opportunities for us to share information about the Closet with patrons of all three branches of the library. We have also had the

opportunity to present information to area service organizations and continue to partner with schools, social workers, youth organizations and others in our community.

What we need now: winter coats and hoodies! Hoodies are a year-round favorite, and we will set out coats in the next few weeks, so gently-used, clean donations are needed.

We are excited about what the future holds as this ministry enters its eighth year and continues to provide teens with clothes, shoes, dignity, confidence and a feeling of God's love in their lives.

First Teen Clothes Closet team,

*Lori Lunney
Shari Hegland
Bridget Crave
Patty Shepard*

firstlu.org/1stteencloset
facebook.com/1stteencloset
instagram.com/1stteencloset
closet@firstlu.org

SERVE & GIVE

GO AND DO LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

SUNSHINE BOYS & GIRLS

The Sunshine Boys meet at First Lutheran on the **second Thursday of the month at 9am** to help with outdoor or indoor projects. Rolls and coffee are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free!

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer!
Monday, Oct. 28, at 9am, to assemble the November newsletter.
See you there!

stephen MINISTRY.

If you know of someone who needs a caregiver, speak with Pastor Karyn (karyn@firstlu.org) or call the church office (608.783.2236).

HELPING HANDS

If you need help with small jobs around the house or if you need a couple of meals or groceries delivered, just go to the "Helping Hands" board by the nursery and make out a slip with a description of what you need help with and your telephone number. Anyone who thinks they can help can take the slip and call the number to work out the details. This ministry is open to all in need of help AND to those who can provide the help. There is no set group of "helpers" so we need involvement from all who can be a blessing to someone else. Thanks!

#FaithAlive365

Food Basket Needs

The following items have been requested to fill the food basket for those in need:

- Canned tomato products
- Spaghetti sauce
- Cream soups
- Spaghettios
- Hamburger Helper
- Paper products.



New-Member Social

First invites any person or family interested in joining our church family to join us for an informal social at Red Pines!

Thur., Oct. 10, 6–7:30pm

*To register, contact the church office:
office@firstlu.org / 608.783.2236*

All Saints Worship

Fri., Nov. 1, 11am





Sugar Creek Bible Camp 2019 Upcoming Events

- Oct 4-6 **6-8th Grade Retreat**
- Oct 7 Yesterday's Fourth (Senior Day Event)
- Oct 11-13 SCBC Women's Retreat
- Oct 26-27 **3rd-5th Grade Retreat**
- Nov 11-10 **High School Retreat**
- Nov 14 Fireside Dinner Theatre Bus Trip – *A Christmas Story-The Musical*
- Nov 19 *Pioneer and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon*
- Dec 2-8 NASHVILLE CHRISTMAS Bus Tour
- Nov 21-24 CRAFT RETREAT (for women)
- Dec 9 Yesterday's Fourth (Senior Day Event)

Drawing from the Well

For women of First and the greater La Crosse area seeking to support one another in their spiritual growth. Meeting for food, fellowship & study.
NEXT: Saturday, Oct. 12, 9:30am
at the house



Contact Bridget for info: bridget@firstlu.org



YESTERDAY'S YOUTH



MONDAY - OCTOBER 7, 2019

- 9 a.m. Coffee, rolls, fellowship
- 9:30 Devotions—Kjell Bakken, Program Director
- 9:45 **SPACE— One Big Empty: A walk thru the Solar System**
presented by "the sky guy," Gordon Stewart
- 10:45 Break – time to stretch, drink coffee...
- 11:00 **INSPIRATION!**
presented by Pastor Jeff Pedersen
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:15 **Special Music by "TUNES"**
Closing fellowship, departure

Come enjoy a burst of FALL color amidst the bluffs of Sugar Creek Bible Camp. Join others from the region for a great day of speakers, music, delicious food, and fellowship with over 100 guests.

**COST: \$10
FOR PROGRAM
AND LUNCH**



**BRING A
FRIEND OR
YOUR CHURCH
GROUP!**



13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd.
Ferryville, WI 54628
608-734-3113
www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org



CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

A baptism preparation session will be **Saturday, Oct. 5, at 10am** in the narthex for anyone who is considering or has scheduled a baptism. *To register or ask questions call the church office at 608.783.3326 by Sunday, Oct. 1. Min. attendance required: 2 families.*

NEW-MEMBER SOCIAL

By choosing to become a member, individuals and families commit to being part of a shared mission. People who would like to become members are invited to join us for one of several new-member socials held throughout the year. The next social will be **Thursday, Oct. 10, 6pm at Red Pines.** To register your family or ask questions, call our church office at 608.783.2236 or email office@firstlu.org.

SNOW BIRDS

Are you heading out? Please let us know if you'll be spending the winter somewhere else. If we know your seasonal address, we can keep in touch by sending you the monthly newsletter. Call or email the office with your winter address: 608.783.2236, office@firstlu.org.

FAMILY PHOTOS: A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

All Saint's Day has long been a day when the church gives thanks for all the saints, the beloved, who have died, especially in the past year. In the coming weeks, we will be asking for photographs of your beloved dead so that we can be surrounded by their witness on All Saint's Day, **Friday, November 1.** These pictures can be

sent electronically (karyn@firstlu.org) or brought in. They will be printed as 4X6, so resolution should be such that they can be printed well from what you submitted. If your loved one was a member of our congregation and died this past year, you will receive a letter with a special request.

All Saint's Day isn't only about those who have died but also about those who have been newly baptized. If your child was baptized this past year, you also will receive a special request.

Please note, we will continue to use the photos submitted last year, so no need to resend those photos.

WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM

- **Barrett Hart Bauman**
- **Jameson David Ehlert**

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

- **Willard Halverson**

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Thank you for the following memorials:

In memory of **Richard Low**

- Designated for Skogen Music Fund: Pat & Wayne Blanchard

In memory of **Willard Halverson**

- Undesignated: Gloria Kubiak, Sandra Nelson

In memory of **Erling "Pete" Sherry**

- Designated for Organ Fund: Maureen Smith, Ellis & Judy Stetzer
- Designated for Quilters/Knitters: Virginia & Clay Pollert
- Designated for Skogen Music Fund: Randy & Lauri Berg
- Designated for Church Bus Fund: Marilyn Fox, Bev Manske

- Undesignated: Nancy Beguin, Pat & Wayne Blanchard, Harry & Ardis Bolstad, Julianne Burton, Kimberly Clark-Ferris, Gaylord & Esther Dolphin, Virginia & Maynard Dunnum, Dwight & Sheryl Dyksterhouse, Lon & Mary Erickson, Kristi & Michael Felber, Kris Franzini, Bev Fuhrman, Charles & Kathleen Gehring, Arnie & Nancy Holthaus, Jack & Carol Horner, Judy Johnson, Ellen Kolb, Jo Ann & Robert Kranig, Gloria Kubiak, Michael & Pamela Langan, Dave & Terry Lee, Elaine Nelson, Steve & Mary Jo Netwal, Frieda & Ronald Nowland, Nancy & Gary Olds, Adolph & Eunice Quast, Barbara & Howard Reedy, Bob & Joni Roenitz, Mark & Shirley Sacia, Earland Sagen, Alice Schaff, Dave & Barb Skogen, Rebecca Solberg, Winifred Solberg, Kent & Mary Sween, Nancy Thorson, Ann & Jim Tingman, Ardie Van Riper, Katy Wood

HOSPITAL REMINDERS

For Gundersen: be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask, and they will release your name to us when we call.

For Mayo/Franciscan Healthcare: it is important that you or a family member contact us at the church office: 608.783.2236. Mayo no longer lets churches know who is a patient at their hospital.

LATEX- & NUT-FREE CAMPUS

A reminder to all members that First Lutheran is a latex- and nut-free campus. Please do not bring food containing nuts or nut butters of any kind onto the church campus. This is for the safety of all of our members. Thanks!

SUBMITTING NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

To have your announcement in the monthly newsletter, send it to newsletter@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the newsletter is always noon on the 15th of each month.

To have your announcement in the weekly announcements pages handed out each weekend, send it to announcements@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the weekly announcements is always noon each Wednesday.

GO GREEN

We offer two e-mail lists for subscribing:

First Lutheran Publications:

which includes e-mail links to our e-newsletter, so if you request to stop receiving this paper in your hands, this will save natural resources, and helps First save money on supplies and postage.

First Lutheran Updates

& Publications: all of the above plus several updates from our website.

To subscribe to either one and to cancel the delivery of this paper copy, simply visit 1stlu.org/subscribe and fill out the online form, or contact the office at office@firstlu.org.



OWLS OLDER WISER LUTHERANS

THE OWLS HAD a great September. We started with a cruise on the La Crosse Queen on a beautiful day, followed by a fantastic lunch at Huck Finn's. In spite of the rain, the potluck at Brian and Mary Narveson's was a fun time. We all gathered inside for great food and an exciting game of "Name That Tune" OWLS style.

We will kick off October with a **potluck in the Narthex at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 16.** Our program will be us. It has been awhile since we have featured ourselves and our stories for a program. It being the season of Halloween, please come prepared to share a favorite Halloween story that involved you

or your family. A great way to know each other better is through our stories.

The OWLS outing in October will be to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We are lucky to have such a beautiful shrine so close. We will see a video explaining the history of the shrine, visit the stunning Votive Candle Chapel, have a tour of the shrine church plus a delicious lunch in the Culina Marianna Café. The shrine will provide golf cart transportation for anyone who does not want to walk up the hill. There is no cost to enter the shrine; lunch will be about \$17. Groups must pay one bill, so please bring cash for lunch. **This enticing adventure will begin at the church at 10:15 AM on Monday, Oct. 28.** Please contact Brian Narveson (owls@firstlu.org, 630-816-5917) by Tuesday, Oct. 22, if you plan on attend.

The tour of the Maywood Mansion in Rochester has been moved to Wednesday, Nov. 6 so we can view the mansion

decorated for Christmas. We will leave the church at 9:30 AM. The Christmas tours sell out fast. Please contact Brian Narveson (owls@firstlu.org, 630-816-5917) if you would like to see this fabulous house in her Christmas finest. Cost of the tour is \$25; lunch will be on your own.

The OWLS are a group at First that welcomes anyone, First Lutheran members or not, who are 55+. For information or to ask questions, contact Brian Narveson at owls@firstlu.org. A reminder for all potlucks that First Lutheran is a nut-free campus. Please do not bring food containing nuts or nut butters of any kind onto the church campus. This is for the safety of all of our members. Thanks!



FIRST LUTHERAN
PRESCHOOL

Preschool Update

September was a very busy month here at Preschool!! We spent the month learning classroom routines, making new friends and becoming independent. We are excited to welcome all new families and returning families to our preschool! We are looking forward to our field trip to Ferguson's Apple Orchard in October!



What parents are
saying about
First Lutheran
Preschool...

We can't say enough about what a positive experience we've had at First Lutheran! The staff is so loving and nurturing, the engaging activities that foster development, the opportunities to build friendships, and so much more! The growth we've seen in our daughter in the last two years is amazing!
Thank you FLP!

FIRST LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

410 Main Street, Onalaska, WI
54650 608.779.4504 •
preschool@firstlu.org
Preschool Director: Melissa Rolbiecki
4K Teacher: Beth Miller
Preschool Assistant Teachers:
Marci Leppert, Tracy Stoll

"WE WALK
WITH OUR
NEIGHBORS
TO END HUNGER"



Coulee Region Hunger 5K Walk/Run

Myrick Park | Sunday, October 13, 2019

Registration 12 PM | Walk/Run 1 PM

Proceeds to Hunger Task Force, WAFER Food Pantry and other
non-profit food relief organizations

(608) 395-5422

couleeregionhungerwalk.org

Find us on Facebook

PLAN TO TAKE PART IN THE COULEE REGION HUNGER WALK/RUN

Our area is about to engage in a huge community effort to fight hunger. After determining that Crop Walk no longer met the needs of our area, a team of dedicated area hunger leaders have been meeting and planning a new walk that would focus more on meeting local needs, but still offer opportunity to reach out to the hungry at other levels. As a result of their work, a non-profit,

501(c)(3) organization called the Coulee Region Hunger Walk, Inc. has been established with the goal of hosting a yearly walk/run. Their mission statement—"We Walk With Our Neighbors to End Hunger"—echoes the group's desire to join resources and the efforts of area community organizations and churches in addressing the issue of hunger.

The first Coulee Region Hunger Walk/Run is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th. The walk/run will begin and end at the Myrick Park main shelter in La Crosse. Registration will begin at noon along with music and games. There will be a sendoff at 12:45 with the run/walk starting at 1:00pm. Following the walk there will be food and drawings for raffle prizes. Each walker will be given tickets for a chance to win prizes from places like Starbucks, Moka and others.

There is a minimum pledge/registration fee of \$20 for each walker. WAFER and Hunger Task Force will each receive 35% of funds raised. The remaining 30% will go to any other non-profit food relief program of the walker's choice. We are recommending you choose ELCA World Hunger, but it's up to you.

**Pledge sheets and brochures are available at church or online at
www.couleeregionhungerwalk.org**

Sunday School

FAITH BUILDING BLOCKS

Grade 3: Bibles

Sunday, Oct. 6: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship

Sunday, Oct. 13, 9:15am: learn to worship assist

Sunday, Oct. 27: assist with worship

Preschool: Praying Together, in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Oct. 6: parents/guardians only

Sundays, Oct. 13 & 20: parents/guardians with children

Sunday, Oct. 27: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship



Grade 1: 10 Commandments, in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Oct. 27: parents/guardians only

Sundays, Nov. 3 & 10: parents/guardians with children

Sunday, Nov. 17: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship



Throughout the year each age group will have a special "Faith Building Block" session in which parents or special adults are asked to attend class with their child. Most sessions lasts for a total of four weeks; the first class consists of parents/guardians connecting with a pastor and other parents in the fellowship hall; the children at this time will be meeting with the other pastor, learning how to worship assist. (This is for grades 1-5, preschool, 4K and kindergarten will attend Sunday school on the first meeting). Weeks two and three classes are for the child and their parents/guardians to attend together, sharing in conversation and growing together in faith. The fourth and final week, children will have a presence in worship in celebration of the Faith Building Block they have learned about and participate in worship by assisting.

**Questions? Contact Sunday School Superintendent Beth Miller at
sundayschool@firstlu.org**



**Starting on
Wednesday, Nov. 6**

Peer Ministry is an amazing opportunity for our young adults here at First Lutheran. It trains and equips them to have the skills to deal with the tough situations that confront our youth in today's world.

They learn how to welcome those who are hurting, listen with empathy, and communicate in clear ways. Peer Ministry grows leaders who can continue to help and serve in their everyday life.

*Meeting most Wednesdays,
November–May*

More info: 1stlu.org/peermin

GO N E F I R M A T I O N

Events subject to change; up-to-date info at
1stlu.org/confirmation

Teen-relevant, age-appropriate, active, modern, and
theologically sound

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL DINNER

October 23, 6–8pm

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (CONFIRMATION)!!

October 27, 2pm

Come celebrate with our
hard-working youth
as they confirm
their baptism vows on
Reformation Sunday.

UPCOMING CONFIRMATION EVENTS

Gr 6 Middle School Milestone
Lifted up in worship Sunday, Oct. 6

Gr 6 Confirmation Bible Class
Sundays, 9:15am, starting Oct. 13

Gr 7 Confirmation Bible Class
Sundays, 9:15am

Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups
Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Gr 10 Confirmation
Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Faith Alive! U: Political Jesus?
Oct 13, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Confirmation Rehearsal Dinner
Oct 23, 6:00 PM

Affirmation of Baptism
Oct 27, 2pm



Meeting Sun. Nights
5:00pm

Middle School
&
High School

YOUTH
GROUPS

? Questions?
Contact Pastor Stanton:
jason@firstlu.org



The Butter Braid fundraiser will start Sunday, Oct. 13.

Youth going to Sugar Creek Bible Camp or on the summer mission trip can pick up order forms from the church office on that date.

All order forms must be turned in by Sunday, Nov. 3 with the money.

Orders will be available for pick-up on Sunday, Nov. 17.







FAITH
ALIVE! U

First offers courses for all-ages to explore, question and learn about your faith. Presented in the sanctuary.

Reconciling in Christ: What It Is, Why It Matters and How to Do It
Pastor Libby Howe
Sunday, Oct. 13, 6pm

The voices in our world that degrade and exclude LGBTQIA people in the name of God are still too many, too loud and can cause deadly harm. Come and learn how our congregation can become a voice of unapologetic welcome, a community of blessing and inclusion, and a public advocate for justice alongside our LGBTQIA friends and neighbors.

OCTOBER AT FIRST LUTHERAN *see also weekly events list on back*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>9:11</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	1	2	3	4	5
				7 PM Women of the House Small Group	7 PM AA - FH	10 AM Baptismal Prep - NX
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>Gr 3 FBB lifted up in worship</p> <p>Gr 6 Milestone lifted up in worship</p> <p>9:15 AM Preschool FBB - FH</p> <p>6 PM Faith Alive U - Reconciling in Christ by Libby Howe</p>	7 PM AA - FS	1 PM Dorcas Circle - NX 4 PM Worship & Music Team 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg	10 AM Ona Terrace Worship  12 PM Finance Team Mtg 7 PM Hospitality Leadership Team - NX	9 AM Sunshine Boys & Girls 6 PM New-Member Social - Red Pines 7 PM Women of the House Small Group	7 PM AA - FS	9:30 AM Drawing from the Well Group - House
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Butter Braid Order Forms Available</p> <p>9:15 AM Preschool FBB - FH</p> <p>9:30 AM Welcome Center Mtg</p> <p>1 PM Coulee Region Hunger Walk</p> <p>6 PM Faith Alive U! - Pr. Libby Howe, Reconciling in Christ</p>	7 PM AA - FS	<p>Deadline for Newsletter</p> <p>9 AM Naomi's Circle</p> <p>5:15 PM Personnel Team Mtg</p> <p>6:30 PM Vision & Leadership Team Mtg</p>	10 AM Ona Terrace Worship  12 PM OWLs Potluck - NX	<p>Date Night Out for Parents</p> <p>10 AM Deborah's Circle - NX</p> <p>1 PM Grief Support Group - UR</p> <p>7 PM Women of the House Small Group</p>	7 PM AA - FS	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:15 AM Preschool FBB - FH 11:45 AM Annual Stewardship Cmte Mtg - FH	1 PM Elizabeth Circle 2:30 PM Springbrook Wrshp  7 PM AA - FS	6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg	6 PM Gr 10 Confirmation Rehearsal Dinner - FH	7 PM Women of the House Small Group	7 PM AA - FS	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<p>Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>Gr 3 Assists with Worship</p> <p>Invitation Sunday</p> <p>Preschool FBB lifted up in worship</p> <p>9:15 AM Gr 1 FBB - FH</p> <p>1:30 PM Affirmation of Baptism / Confirmation Worship </p>	9 AM Newsletter Assembly 10:15 AM OWLs Fly to Shrine 7 PM AA - FS		<p>Invitation Wednesday</p>	7 PM Women of the House Small Group	11 AM All Saints Worship  7 PM AA - FH	<p>Daylight Savings Ends Tonight! </p>

weekly events for

OCTOBER

at First Lutheran

SUNDAYS

- 8:00am Worship
- 9:15am Sunday School
- 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes
- 9:15am Prayer Shawl Knitters - NX
- 9:15am Sunday Mornings with Coffee - MR
- 9:15am Parent Share - UR
- 10:30am Worship
- 5:00pm Middle & High School Youth Groups - Fellowship Hall

TUESDAYS

- 9:00am Quilters - FS
- 1:15pm Staff Meeting
- 5:15pm Bell Practice - Sacristy

WEDNESDAYS

- 6:00am Courageous Men - House
- 6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera, Onalaska
- 5:15pm Prayer Shawl Knitters - NX
- 6:15pm Worship
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - SN
- 7:00pm Gr 8-10 Small Groups



New-Member Social
Thur, Oct 10
6pm



Coulee Region
Hunger Walk
Sun, Oct 13
1pm



Faith Alive! U
Reconciling in Christ
Sun, Oct 13
6pm



Confirmation
Rehearsal Dinner
Wed, October 23
5-8pm



Invitation Sunday
Sun, Oct 27
11:30am



Invitation Wednesday
Wed, Oct 30
7pm

Calendar KEY

- CR = Choir Room
- FBB = Faith Building Block
- FH = Fellowship Hall
- FS = Fireside Room
- LG = Lounge
- MR = Mary Room
- NX = Narthex
- SN = Sanctuary
- TR = Thomas Room
- UR = Upper Room

Events subject to change; up-to-date information at 1stlu.org/cal

Subscribe to our Google calendar at 1stlu.org/calsub

Use the QR Codes to quickly add these events to the calendar of your smart phone or tablet.

Tips: focus the code, hold the device still, try various distances, & use good lighting. Need a scanning app? Try www.scan.me.

facebook

Share your Faith Alive moments!
Tag them #faithalive365
and like us at facebook.com/1stlu



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 Tracy Stoll.....Preschool Assistant Teacher

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Larry Schreiner.....President
 Aaron McDonald.....Vice President
 Jennifer Wiesjahn.....Secretary
 Brandon King
 Diane Shuda
 Nancy Beguin
 Shaun Gibbs

REVELATIONS

The end of the newsletter is near, so here's a few things we find revealing..

THE REVELATIONS OF TAMARA



VISITING:

Minnesota Marine Art Museum

Where the art is always astounding — whether it's on permanent display in the galleries or part of the rotating "selections from the collection" display.

READING:

Virgil Wander

By Leif Enger. Virgil runs and lives in a seen-better-days movie theater in a seen-better-days northern Minnesota town. Curious characters, events that are nearly unbelievable — a book to read past your bedtime. Didn't care for the last plot development, though. After you've read this — or before — read Mr. Enger's "Peace Like a River."

THE REVELATIONS OF ANDY



READING:

Good Omens, The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch

By Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett. This is the book that the recent Amazon Prime TV series is based on, about an angel and a demon who, over the millennia of working on Earth, have become fond of humanity and begin to work together to stop the destruction of the world as The End draws near. The book is funny, and irreverent, in a very British sort of way.



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www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sunday 8:00 AM
10:30 AM
Wednesday 6:15 PM



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Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.
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GOOD NEWS

OCTOBER 2019

*invitation
to*



CHANGE
LIVES

ALSO INSIDE

**FAITH ALIVE! U:
RECONCILING
IN CHRIST**

**COULEE REGION
HUNGER WALK**

WARMING CENTER

#faithalive365