



FIRST LUTHERAN

# GOOD NEWS!

NOVEMBER 2020

All of this and more on the web at [www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)

SEE ALSO...

-  [facebook.com/1stlu](https://facebook.com/1stlu)
-  [instagram.com/1stlu](https://instagram.com/1stlu)
-  [twitter.com/1stlu](https://twitter.com/1stlu)
-  [1stlu.org/cal](https://1stlu.org/cal)
-  [pinterest.com/firstlu](https://pinterest.com/firstlu)
- [#faithalive365](https://twitter.com/firstlu)

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## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STANTON



AMONG AMERICA'S FOUNDERS, Alexander Hamilton was his generation's foremost financial mind. To help

launch the new nation, he believed each state and individual citizens should invest in the federal project by servicing a shared debt. Hamilton said, "A national debt, if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing." How could debt be a blessing? For one, Hamilton believed the states would thrive more if they were members of a stronger union, rather than such a loose confederation. United, the fledgling nation could better defend itself, build infrastructure and send products to market sooner. A national debt would be a national project where everyone shares an interest in seeing it paid.

Churches have shared this perspective for decades. The idea is

that keeping debt on the books keeps members financially engaged. Many churches, once they are close to paying off their debt, believe the time has come to borrow again for the next big project. The fear is that once all debts are cleared, members will think they no longer need to support their church.

Things have changed over the last few decades, though, in the minds of many church-goers. 21st century congregations do not seek to exist for their own sake to the extent that they used to. Yes, churches still want a top notch staff, a robust set of programs, beautiful buildings and spacious, convenient parking lots. Of course. But 21st century Christians view these pieces as foundational building blocks. We want to be more than our facilities and what happens there. Building and

*Continues on page 2*



*All Saints Worship*

**Sunday, Nov. 1**  
**8am & 10:30am worship**  
**[1stlu.org/live](https://1stlu.org/live)**

**We will honor our brothers and sisters in Christ who have gone before us at these worship services.**

maintaining "First Lutheran, Onalaska" is not our members' end game. Our church buildings, our programs and even our worship services are meant to serve a mission that goes far beyond 410 Main Street.

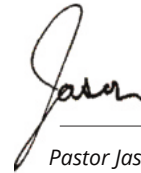
Debt used to unite church members in a shared project that created a religious club. In 2020, though, debt is seen by many as an obstacle as we want every dollar possible to serve our own church and support our community, both near and far. First Lutheran has matured over these first 150 years into a congregation who seeks to proclaim God's love by

servicing our neighbors with our time, attention and financial support.

On November 22, First Lutheran will celebrate the complete payment of all our debts. We will burn our mortgage during worship! For the first time in living memory, our congregation will not be united by servicing a debt together. Our generosity can now focus outward into our community more than ever before.

The old theory would suggest that our giving may go down in 2021 because we no longer share a debt that requires payment. I believe that just the opposite will happen. Giving will increase because First Lutheran is

directing our proclamation into a world that needs us. Thank you for the sacrifices you made to help pay off our debt. And thank you in advance for the sacrifices you intend to keep offering so that together, we support families, institutions and ministries that proclaim God's grace in a broken world.



Pastor Jason Stanton  
jason@firstlu.org

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KARYN



IT'S NOVEMBER. I don't know why that feels momentous, but then again, every new month feels like we have made it through the latest obstacle and are one step closer to the end—of what I am not sure, but that is how it is feeling to me. It's November. We made it.

Of course, November brings an election. An important one. Voting has always been, for me, the most concrete way I participate in our democracy. I remember growing up, sitting with my parents at the dining room table, listening to them talk through the issues and the candidates before going to the polls. Then, when I was old enough, I would join in on the conversation and take my place in the line to cast my vote. Of course, we would see all our neighbors there in the gym of the middle school down the street, kids playing outside or in a corner of the room and so voting felt like all of us coming together to make sure our voices were heard. Voting has always been my sacred duty as a

citizen of this country. It is strange to me not to going to the polls on November 3, to experience the sense of community voting together brings, but this hasn't been a year for usual community building activities.

What I have found this year, especially as we approach November 3, is a deeper pull, a deeper call, to trust God more than ever. It is hard to put into words, but it feels like the Holy Spirit is pushing beyond my preconceived notions of what it means to fear, love and trust God above all things to move me into a deeper and more profound relationship with God for the sake of the world. It has certainly been challenging and by no means something only I have been feeling.

This year, on November 3, in answer to the call to fear, love and trust God above all things and to practice our faith and citizenship together, we at First Lutheran are calling our members to a day of prayer. What does that look like, you may ask? The first thing is that we are inviting people to sign up to

pray during each hour of the day starting at 5:00 a.m and ending at midnight. You can sign up on SignUp Genius for any given hour, but it is not expected that you would pray for the whole hour. The second thing is that we will be live streaming prayer services throughout the day at 6am, noon, 6:15pm and 9:45pm. These will be, primarily, short prayer services centered around a specific scripture and include some songs and a reflection. The 6:15 worship service will be Holden Evening Prayer.

We invite you to be in prayer the whole of the day and to join us in this day of prayer as our country decides on leadership. As we do so, may we always remember that it is in God that we put our trust.

Be well. Be kind. Christ is with you.



Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz  
karyn@firstlu.org

First Lutheran Church  
410 Main St.  
Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650  
608.783.2236  
Fax: 608.783.3741

office@firstlu.org  
www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Live streaming at [1stlu.org/live](https://1stlu.org/live)  
Sundays 8am & 10:30am  
Wednesdays 6:15pm

## SUBMITTING NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

To have your announcement in the monthly newsletter, send it to [newsletter@firstlu.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.





## Christmas Giving Tree

Help make Christmas special for area kids and families by buying NEW items for them. We are again partnering with La Crosse County Human Services, and have a list of people and items they or their social worker have requested. Instead of taking a tag from the tree in the church narthex, please go to [1stlu.org/givingtree](http://1stlu.org/givingtree), and "take a tag" by signing up for one of the gifts. In order to maintain confidentiality, each recipient is assigned a code. Please purchase the item requested, wrap it, and put a tag on the outside of the gift with the code that is on the SignUp.

**Gifts should all be turned in to First Lutheran by Sunday, Dec. 13.**

Questions? email [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org)

## READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday, Nov. 1: Matthew 5: 1-12

Wednesday, Nov. 4: 1 Kings 17: 1-24

Sunday, Nov. 8: Matthew 25: 1-13

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Jonah 1: 1-17; 3: 1-10,

Sunday, Nov. 15: Matthew 25: 14-30

Wednesday, Nov. 18: Isaiah 6: 1-8

Sunday, Nov. 22: Matthew 25: 31-46

Wednesday, Nov. 25: Jeremiah 36: 1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31: 31-34

Sunday, Nov. 29: Mark 13: 24-37

Above are the tentative readings scheduled for November. 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](http://1stlu.org/readings).

### ***READ 1 SAMUEL IN 9 DAYS!***

Pastor Stanton will be introducing this book to Bible Readers **starting Thursday, Nov. 5.**

### ***READ ACTS IN 33 DAYS!***

Pastor Stanton will be introducing this book to Bible Readers **starting Monday, Nov. 9.**

### ***READ 1 CHRONICLES IN 8ISH DAYS!***

Pastor Stanton will be introducing this book to Bible Readers **starting Friday, Nov. 27.**

These studies are for ANYone who can read, 3rd graders to our eldest friend; members and acquaintances far far away. Use whatever Bible you'd like! Follow Pastor Stanton's daily guides on Facebook or YouTube, and if you'd like the daily video guides emailed to you contact Pastor Stanton at [jason@firstlu.org](mailto:jason@firstlu.org)

**FAITH  
ALIVE! U**

*First offers courses for all ages to explore, question and learn about your faith. Presented via Zoom.*

## **The Year of Mark**

**By Pastor Stanton  
& Pastor Karyn  
Sunday, Nov 8, 6pm**

There had never been anything quite like it. Good news, grounded in God's love for everyone... meant to be heard by EVERYONE! Starting on Nov. 29 and throughout next year, most Sunday sermons will be rooted in a reading from Mark. What is the message? What is the story? And how has Mark changed the world?

*Zoom ID: 876 4004 2360  
Passcode: 080265*

*For confirmation students, high schoolers and all adults.*



## ★ Election Day of Prayer ★

This year, on Nov. 3, in answer to the call to fear, love and trust God above all things, and to practice our faith and citizenship together, we at First Lutheran are calling our members to a day of prayer. What does that look like, you may ask?

The first thing is that we are inviting people to sign up to pray during each hour of the day starting at 5am and ending at midnight.

You can sign up at [1stlu.org/electionvigil](http://1stlu.org/electionvigil) for any given hour, but it is not expected that you would pray for the whole hour.

The second thing is that we will be live streaming prayer services throughout the day at 6am, noon, 6:15pm and 9:45pm. These will be, primarily, short prayer services centered around a specific scripture and include some songs and a reflection. The 6:15pm worship service will be Holden Evening Prayer.



Remember to vote on Tues., Nov. 3  
Voting info at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

## *Drawing from the Well*

For women of First and the greater La Crosse area seeking to support one another in their spiritual growth.  
Meeting on Zoom for fellowship & study.  
**NEXT: Saturday, Nov. 14, 9:30am**



Contact Bridget for info: [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org)

## SERVE & GIVE

# GO AND DO LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AUCTION

The La Crosse Area Habitat for Humanity will have an online fundraising auction from **Nov. 6-12**. Proceeds from the online auction of gift baskets will support the Faith Build house at 1112 Avon St. in La Crosse for Libby Olson and her two sons. For more information, contact Pam Hartwell at [pam@habitatlacrosse.org](mailto:pam@habitatlacrosse.org) or 608.797.3513, or go to the Habitat website: [habitatlacrosse.org](http://habitatlacrosse.org)

## stephen MINISTRY®

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

Posted September 18, 2020



DEAR FRIENDS IN the La Crosse Area Synod: We are living in interesting times. I am glad I have been sharing them with you. It is empowering and hopeful to witness what Christ is doing through us as congregations and as synod in the midst of this pandemic. You continue to ensure that the Word of God is proclaimed to our members, to our neighbors and to the world. You continue to feed the hungry, connect with the lonely, protect the most vulnerable among us, and witness for justice. Thank you for what you do in the name of Jesus.

It is my honor to continue to serve with you beyond my two terms in office. I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of our transition to ministry in an epidemic and divided world. I am thankful that I can aim us toward ministry together with our next called bishop. But it is now time for a change.

Since we began postponing and finally cancelled the 2020 La Crosse Area Synod Assembly, I have been discerning with family, friends, colleagues, and our Presiding Bishop. I have prayed. Through much wise council and with a sense of peace I am announcing that I will retire as Bishop of the La Crosse Area and as a called pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on December 31, 2020. I choose to do so for the wellbeing of the synod and for my health and life as husband, father, grandfather, and one with enough years to follow some wisdom.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has already begun a search for an interim bishop to serve starting January 1, 2021, until a newly elected bishop can be installed. I will be available to

**I will be forever grateful for the honor of serving as your bishop. The relationships, the ministry, and the opportunities have been blessing after blessing after blessing.**

the interim bishop for consultation. Between now and December 31, I will continue my bishop's duties with full focus and will begin guiding the synod's work toward the transitions to come. I will be forever grateful for the honor of serving as your bishop. The relationships, the ministry, and the opportunities have been blessing after blessing after blessing. Thank you for your partnership over the past twelve years. Thank you for understanding it is my time to retire. Thank you for your prayers for Lynn's and my future.

Praying peace and blessings for you all,

*Bishop Jim Arends*

Bishop of the La Crosse Area Synod of the ELCA  
[bishop@lacrosseareasynd.org](mailto:bishop@lacrosseareasynd.org)

### A NEW DIFFERENT KIND OF HOSPITALITY



I WAS SO excited to see those who attended our outdoor worship this fall, I was giddy with joy and thankfulness that we could be together

worshipping again. Like Zacchaeus welcoming Jesus, in Luke 19:6 "So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly". I was ever so thankful and joyous to welcome people back. I loved making sure everyone had what they needed, masks, communion, worship bulletins, children bags, social distancing circles and reminders to keep each other safe. It took a lot of planning, work and help from my hospitality leadership team to put it all together, but it worked out great for all who attended. Except for the bees liking the communion wine a little too much.

Once again we are planning, to make sure all who come to worship inside will feel comfortable doing so. As we work on planning for your return, I hope you will be kind, compassionate and forgiving as we do things differently. As Ephesians 4:32 says, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you". We will be doing some new and different things as we begin opening up to worship together. We will be entering in one way and exiting out another way. There will be social distancing in the pews as well as when we enter into the sanctuary. Everyone will need to wear a mask, and we will be encouraging everyone to take their bulletins and children's bags home with them. Communion will be done a little differently along with the offering. There will be much that will stay the same, we will be having people

**Worship has changed, but the One we worship will never change.**

welcoming you into church, handing out bulletins and children's bags, helping people find a place to sit and of course, praising and worshipping God together. Our pastors will be up front leading worship along with Gabe, Todd and the praise band. We will still be live streaming for those who still don't feel comfortable attending in-person worship.

As we are all learning that much has changed, there is still much that is the same. Although worship has changed as we do live streaming and how we do it in person, we know that the One we do worship doesn't and never will change. God is the same yesterday, today and forever. The desire for us to gather together to worship hasn't changed, but how we do that has changed. How we take care of others has changed, now we wear masks and social distance, but we still can care for and pray for each other. We live in a constantly changing world and we always have, but the one thing that is constantly constant is our God. Thanks be to God!

*Kathryn Pedretti*  
 Director of Hospitality  
[kathryn@firstlu.org](mailto:kathryn@firstlu.org)



## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

The pastors are considering baptisms on an individual basis. The next baptism preparation session will be **Saturday, Dec. 5, at 10am** 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, Nov. 29.*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

If you have received a birthday postcard from First in the last several months and still have it, bring it into church Mon–Fri, 8am–4pm and pick up a small gift. Remember to ring the doorbell on the left side of the doors and Tamara will be happy to help you.

## 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.*

## RESULTS FROM COULEE REGION HUNGER WALK

This year Coulee Region Hunger Walk/Run expanded to include biking! We went virtual, and what a great experience we had. Walkers, runners, and bikers could participate anytime between October 4-11. Participants posted pictures of their activity on our Facebook page. It was a beautiful week to exercise and enjoy a community effort in our beautiful region supporting local agencies that meet the needs of struggling families in the Coulee Region. Over 230 people registered and donated. We raised over \$14,200!

## CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

If the weather ever makes you wonder whether your group is meeting for their ministry, check our website, Facebook page, or update the office with your cell # and provider so that we can text you. The staff and leadership of First intend to 'make the call' by 5pm at the latest so everyone knows what to expect. Be safe this winter!

## WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM

- **Lila Barbara Hand, daughter of Chris & Kaitlyn Hand**
- **Lochlan Lee Erickson, son of Tyler & Ashley Erickson**
- **Nora Lorraine Peickert, daughter of Ryan & Jennifer Peickert**

## WEDDINGS

*God's blessings to...*

- **Kaija Sysimaki & Benjamin Towle**

## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

*Thank you for the following memorials:*

### In memory of Laura Adams

- Undesignated: James Eggen, Allamae Elsen & Geraldine Hefti, Bev Manske, Kay Risberg

### In memory of Stephen & Lucille Vanderploeg

- Undesignated: Michael & Mary Regner, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Jim Vanderploeg

### In memory of Inez Lee

- Undesignated: Dennis & Debra Lee, family & friends of Inez Lee

## 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.

## 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.*

# Sunday School

in a box

## Register for Sunday School in a Box!

This is First Lutheran's way of handling the pandemic & Sunday School. Do as much as you can including crafts, games, cooking, music, science, devotionals, verse and video! All you need to do is to register during the designated time by going to [1stlu.org/sundayschool](http://1stlu.org/sundayschool) and then you will pick up your box on the pick up day!

## Register Nov. 15 for for Advent Around the Table

Pick up box on Nov. 28  
Advent Around the Table: Nov. 29

## Register Nov. 22-29 for "Christmas"

Pick up Box Dec 5  
Week 1: Dec. 6  
Week 2: Dec. 13  
Week 3: Dec. 20  
Week 4: Dec. 27

## FAITH BUILDING BLOCKS

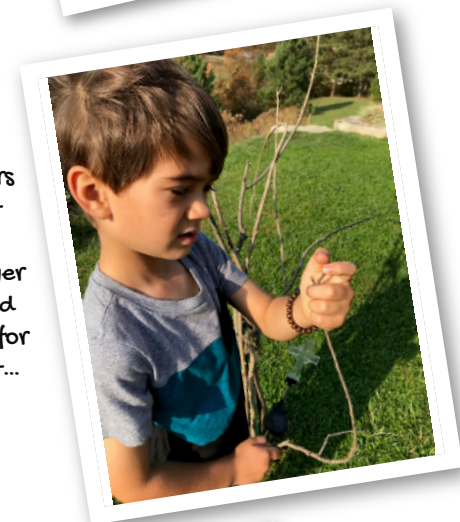
### Grade 1: Ten Commandments

**Sunday, Nov. 8:** parents/guardians only via Zoom

**Sundays, Nov. 15 & 22:** parents/guardians with children via Zoom

**Sunday, Nov. 29:** Faith Building Block lifted up in worship

*Families will be emailed the Zoom link from the pastors in the week prior to class.*



Just want to share some of the photos members posted from Sunday School's Creation Box last October. Clockwise we have: a 7 day picture representation of the day of creation, 3 scavenger hunt pictures, and below a photo of the included matching game. There are two boxes to sign up for in November, & the Advent box is short & sweet... don't miss out!







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.

Join us for a Peer Ministry preview with Renee Thies on **Nov. 4 from 7-8:15pm** via Zoom for all 10th graders. Be ready for a significant faith formation experience!

More info: [1stlu.org/peermin](http://1stlu.org/peermin)  
Questions?  
Contact [jason@firstlu.org](mailto:jason@firstlu.org).

# CONFIRMATION

Teen-relevant, age-appropriate, active, modern, and theologically sound | Events subject to change; up-to-date info at [1stlu.org/confirmation](http://1stlu.org/confirmation)

## UPCOMING CONFIRMATION EVENTS

Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes continue online

Wednesdays, 7pm  
Gr 8-9 Small Groups

Sunday, Nov. 8, 6pm  
Confirmation Elective  
Faith Alive! U: The Year of Mark

Sunday, May 23, 2021, 1:30pm  
Tentative Confirmation Sunday for youth in tenth grade (postponed from October)



## BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

The Butter Braid fundraiser runs **through Sunday, Nov. 8**. Youth raising funds for youth ministries will need to create an online account. Members wanting to purchase Butter Braids should try to find a youth member who has set-up a fundraising account; they can send you a link where you can order from them online. If you don't know of anyone to purchase from but would still like to place an order, please call the church office at 608.783.2236. All orders must be placed and paid for by Nov. 8. Orders will be delivered by the youth you placed the order through on Wednesday, Nov. 18. If you ordered through the church you can pick them up at the church on or after that date. *More detailed info at [1stlu.org/bbraids](http://1stlu.org/bbraids).*

Questions?  
Contact Pastor Stanton at [jason@firstlu.org](mailto:jason@firstlu.org).





Join the OWLs for their November virtual potluck to watch this video about the Christmas season in Norway.



In October, we had a fun group of OWLs join Brian and Mary for a pictorial trip through the colors of fall in the Colorado Mountains. In November, we will continue with our virtual potlucks. **The November virtual potluck will be on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 1pm.** As it is the time of year we begin planning for Christmas, we will start with video on the Christmas season in Norway. You may see some of the traditions you grew up with or learn about something you want to try this Christmas. Following the video, we will have a rousing

game of TriBond. The fascinating word game we played at our first virtual potluck. Don't miss the fantastic opportunity to socialize safely. The connection details for the meeting will be sent the Monday before (Nov. 16). If you are not on the OWLs mailing list and would like to attend please contact Brian Narveson at 630.816.5917 or owls@firstlu.org. Also please contact Brian if you need assistance with the technology to join the meeting. You can join the meeting with a basic phone. Looking forward to seeing everyone in November.

*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.*



## Thanksgiving Sunday

**November 22, 2020**

Worship will include LOTS of cowbells ringing in celebration as we burn the mortgage! There may or may not be lots of noisemakers, a confetti cannon, and a cake in your own kitchen (that part will be up to you).

**Join us at 8am or 10:30am for the BIG event.**



*Diko Marie and her father tend to the family's farm in the village of Niem in the Central African Republic, where gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work.*



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 reach out to people of all ages to make more disciples of Christ. November is traditionally World Hunger month in the ELCA. Working with and through congregations like First Lutheran, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to micro loans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. We normally take a special offering for World Hunger during our services. To support ELCA World Hunger this year please contribute directly on their

website at [elca.org/hunger/donate](http://elca.org/hunger/donate) or send contributions to the church office designated for ELCA World Hunger.

General Fund giving for operations (not including the capital campaign and preschool) as of Sept. 30, 2020 was \$433,527. Budgeted receipts were \$441,843 leaving a deficit of (\$8,316). Thanks to everyone's generosity, we have reduced the deficit by over \$10,000 since August. That helps put us on track to end the year without a deficit with your continued support. Please consider regular giving via Simply Giving to meet this goal and provide the resources to expand our ministry to Change Lives. If you are already participating in Simply Giving, thank you. To enroll call the church office or sign up at [1stlu.org/giving](http://1stlu.org/giving).

Capital Campaign update: We are going to **BURN THE MORTGAGE** at a special event during the services on Sunday, Nov. 22. Do not miss this date we have been looking forward to for some time. It is also great to report we

are approaching the receipt of \$1,000,000 of the pledged income for the capital campaign to date. In addition, we have already received declarations of intent of over \$180,000 toward our Above and Beyond finish of the Capital Campaign, which has a goal of \$230,000. With everyone's help we can make this goal and end the year with enough money to complete all our projects. Please email your intent to Pastor Jason at [jason@firstlu.org](mailto:jason@firstlu.org). Thank you to everyone who has already declared their intent. We anticipate receiving the Above and Beyond contributions by year end. Also, thank you to everyone for working to complete their original Capital Campaign pledge before year end. Full financial details are available by request in the church office. In normal times, we welcome everyone to attend a finance committee meeting. We meet every month, on the second Wednesday, at noon. The Stewardship Committee meets once a month and is looking for members. For meeting times and Zoom information, contact Pastor Stanton..

*Faithfully submitted,*

*The Finance and Stewardship Committees*

- CAP CAMPAIGN UPDATE
- PLEGGED DOLLARS:
- \$1,058,518
- GIFTS RECEIVED:
- \$905,000
- PROJECTS COMPLETED:
- HVAC CONTROLS
- ED BUILDING ROOF
- PARKING LOT REPAIRS
- TREES REMOVED
- WIFI UPGRADE
- FIRE ALARM SYSTEM
- 3 AC UNITS REPLACED
- SANCTUARY AUDIO UPGRADE
- SANCTUARY ROOF



# NOVEMBER AT FIRST LUTHERAN see also weekly events list on back

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																															
<p>1</p> <p><b>All Saints' Day / 150th</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p> <p>8 AM All Saints Worship Live Stream</p> <p>9:15 AM Preschool FBB: Praying Together - Zoom</p> <p>9:15 AM Sun. Morn w/ Coffee</p> <p>10:30 AM All Saints Worship Live Stream</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Election Day of Prayer</b></p> <p>6 AM Election Day Prayer Service</p> <p>12 PM Election Day Prayer Service</p> <p>6:15 PM Election Day Prayer Service (Holden Evening)</p> <p>7 PM Stephen Ministry - Zoom</p> <p>9:45 PM Election Day Prayer Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6 AM Courageous Men</p> <p>7:30 AM Coffee With Pastor Karyn - Zoom</p> <p>8:30 AM Clothes Closet Planning Meeting</p> <p>6:15 PM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>7 PM Peer Ministry Kick-off - Zoom</p> <p>7 PM Gr 8 &amp; 9 Small Groups</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Bible Readers Begin 1 Samuel</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>																																																																																															
<p>8</p> <p><b>Butter Braid Order Deadline</b></p> <p><b>Preschool FBB: Praying Together,...</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p> <p>8 AM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>9:15 AM Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - Zoom</p> <p>9:15 AM Sun. Morn w/ Coffee</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>6 PM Faith Alive! U: The Year of Mark</p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>Bible Readers Begin Acts</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Office Closed (Veterans Day)</b></p> <p>6 AM Courageous Men</p> <p>7:30 AM Coffee With Pastor Karyn - Zoom</p> <p>6:15 PM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>7 PM Gr 8 &amp; 9 Small Groups</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 AM Drawing from the Well</p>	<p>14</p>																																																																																															
<p>15</p> <p><b>Deadline for Newsletter</b></p> <p><b>Sun School Reg for Advent Box!</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p> <p>8 AM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>9:15 AM Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - Zoom</p> <p>9:15 AM Sun. Morn w/ Coffee</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Live Stream</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 PM Executive team</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6 AM Courageous Men</p> <p>7:30 AM Coffee With Pastor Karyn - Zoom</p> <p>12 PM Finance Team Mtg</p> <p>12 PM OWLs Virtual Potluck - Zoom</p> <p>6:15 PM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>7 PM Gr 8 &amp; 9 Small Groups</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9 AM The Doctor and The Apostle (Book Discussion w/ Pr Karyn) - Zoom</p>	<p>21</p>																																																																																															
<p>22</p> <p><b>Sun School Reg for Christmas Box!</b></p> <p><b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p> <p>8 AM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>9:15 AM Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - Zoom</p> <p>9:15 AM Sun. Morn w/ Coffee</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Live Stream</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:15 PM Personnel Team Mtg</p> <p>7 PM Vision &amp; Leadership Team Mtg</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6 AM Courageous Men</p> <p>7:30 AM Coffee With Pastor Karyn - Zoom</p> <p>6:15 PM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>7 PM Gr 8 &amp; 9 Small Groups</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Thanksgiving (office closed)</b></p>	<p>26</p> <p><b>Bible Readers Begin 1 Chronicles</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Pick Up Sun. School Advent Box</b></p>	<p>28</p>																																																																																															
<p>29</p> <p><b>Sun School Reg for Christmas Box!</b></p> <p><b>Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments, lif...</b></p> <p>7 PM AA - FS</p> <p>8 AM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>9:15 AM Sun. Morn w/ Coffee</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Live Stream</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 PM Stephen Ministry - Zoom</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6 AM Courageous Men</p> <p>7:30 AM Coffee With Pastor Karyn - Zoom</p> <p>8:30 AM Clothes Closet Planning Meeting</p> <p>6:15 PM Worship Live Stream</p> <p>7 PM Gr 8 &amp; 9 Small Groups</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>MAY</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>							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		31								<p><b>JULY</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>												1	2				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	31		
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weekly events for

# NOVEMBER

at First Lutheran

## SUNDAYS

8:00am Worship

9:15am Sunday Mornings with Coffee - Zoom

10:30am Worship

## TUESDAYS

1:30pm Staff Meeting

## WEDNESDAYS

6:00am Courageous Men - Zoom

6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Zoom

6:15pm Worship



## QUILTERS GIVE WHAT THEY HAVE

Groups that usually meet at church, including the quilters, haven't been able to get together here since last spring because of Covid 19. The pandemic pause put a dent in how many quilts the quilters were able to make this "season," but it didn't stop them from getting the 135 quilts they had finished by mid-March to Lutheran World Relief, which distributes them to people throughout the world. In October, some of the quilters boxed up the quilts and delivered them to the LWR boxcar when it stopped in La Crosse on Oct. 10. Thanks to Adrian & Ardie for taking the boxes of quilts down to the box car.

## 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](http://1stlu.org/cal)*

*Subscribe to our Google calendar at [1stlu.org/calsub](http://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](http://www.scan.me).*

Blessing Veterans  
Sunday, Nov. 8

Blessing

Retail Workers

Sunday, Nov. 15



## STAFF DIRECTORY

Jason Stanton ..... Senior Pastor ..... 608.386.6431 ..... jason@firstlu.org  
Karyn Bodenschatz ..... Associate Pastor ..... 608.433.6002 ..... karyn@firstlu.org

Bridget Crave ..... Community Impact Director ..... bridget@firstlu.org  
Kathryn Pedretti ..... Director of Hospitality ..... kathryn@firstlu.org

### YOUTH/EDUCATION STAFF

Cassie Carrell ..... Nursery Coordinator ..... nursery@firstlu.org  
Beth Miller ..... Sunday School Superintendent ..... sundayschool@firstlu.org  
..... Young Youth Director ..... beth@firstlu.org  
Andrea Dombroski ..... Volunteer Youth Ministry Administrator ..... 608.790.5631 ..... ym@firstlu.org  
Karissa Grunden ..... Volunteer Middle School Youth Director

### SUPPORT STAFF

Tamara Schonsberg ..... Office Assistant ..... 608.783.2236 ..... office@firstlu.org  
Andy Stutesman ..... Director of Communications & Marketing ..... andy@firstlu.org  
Dave Nichols ..... Building Maintenance & Grounds Custodian Supervisor ..... dave@firstlu.org  
Jerry Yushta ..... Assistant Custodian

### MUSIC STAFF

Gabriel Hicks ..... Organist ..... gabe@firstlu.org  
Jim Knutson ..... Bell Choir Director ..... jim@firstlu.org  
Todd Saner ..... Senior Choir Director & Contemporary Music Coordinator ..... todd@firstlu.org

### PRESCHOOL STAFF

Melissa Rolbiecki ..... Preschool Director ..... 608.779.4504 ..... preschool@firstlu.org  
Beth Miller ..... 4K Teacher ..... beth@firstlu.org  
Marci Leppert ..... Preschool Assistant Teacher  
Tracy Stoll ..... Preschool Assistant Teacher

### VISION & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Larry Schreiner ..... President  
Jennifer Wiesjahn ..... Vice President  
Diane Shuda ..... Secretary  
Brandon King  
Derrick Knight  
Michelle Renkas  
Nancy Beguin



**FIRST  
LUTHERAN**

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ONALASKA, WI  
PERMIT #15

210 Main Street  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
608.783.2236  
www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

To stop delivery: email [andy@firstlu.org](mailto:andy@firstlu.org) or call office at 608.783.2236

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Live streaming at [1stlu.org/live](http://1stlu.org/live)  
Sundays 8am & 10:30am  
Wednesday 6:15pm



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

edition: November 2020

**GOOD NEWS**  
NOVEMBER 2020  
FIRST LUTHERAN

**MARK**

THE BEGINNING OF THE  
GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD.

3 years  
7 days

**PART 1**  
1:1-8:26

**FAITH U  
ALIVE!**

**The Year of Mark**  
By Pastor Stanton & Pastor Karyn  
Sunday, Nov. 8, 6pm

1:1-20  
1:21-45  
2:1-22  
2:23-3:35  
4:1-34  
4:35-5:20  
5:21-43  
6:1-29  
6:30-56  
7:1-23  
7:24-8:26

8:27-9:8  
10:1-31  
10:32-52  
11:1-26  
11:27-12:27  
12:28-44  
13:1-37

**PART 3**  
11:1-16:8 or (20)

ALSO INSIDE

**ALL SAINTS  
SUNDAY**

**ELECTION DAY  
OF PRAYER**

**MESSAGE FROM  
BISHOP ARENDTS**

14:1-40  
14:41-72  
15:1-20  
15:21-41  
16:9-16:8

#faithalive365

Cover Image by Rev. Dr. Steve Thomason. Ph.D. cartoonisbible.com