



FIRST LUTHERAN

GOOD NEWS!

NOVEMBER 2021

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

SEE ALSO...

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

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STANTON

LAST BEST CHANCE



HAVE YOU EVER wanted to make a special effort to reconnect with an old friend, a distant family member or an acquaintance that you've always wanted to know better?

Have I got a deal for you!

Believe it or not, it's been five years since First Lutheran graciously gifted me with time for a sabbatical with my family. You may remember that Carla and I made a dream come true, taking our three kids to Carla's home country, the Bahamas, so that we could all be immersed in Bahamian culture. Carla and the kids spent six full months there. With my three months of sabbatical, I did nearly nothing. It was pretty great. In doing less and being more, I was renewed in my call to ministry and reinvigorated in my call to

be husband, parent and friend. That is the goal of a sabbatical, after all. It was a good investment for First Lutheran to make.

In 2022, I plan to take another sabbatical. This time, because of the scheduling challenges of my kids and this season of life, instead of taking three full months away all at once, I will take half in January-February and the other half from Memorial Day until mid-July.

My 2022 sabbatical has a title: "Last, Best Chance." Why? Because I submitted a grant proposal to the Lilly Foundation with ideas all centered around the last, best chances I have right now. They are many! My eldest will be a senior in high school next year. Next summer will be our last, best

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All Saints Worship

Sunday, Nov. 7
8am & 10:30am worship

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

“Lilly” believes in the vision I shared...

And this is where I have a deal FOR YOU, too good to refuse.

chance to do a BIG trip before she flies off to college. Also, my godson Sam has suffered numerous near-death experiences due to his deteriorating heart condition. I asked the Lilly Foundation to provide the means whereby I could provide a vacation rental on the beach for his family and ours. He loves the water more than anything. This summer could be our last, best chance to enjoy such a trip. My parents and in-laws are all well, thankfully. But how many more chances will I have to do a father-son golf trip that, for years, we've said we 'should' do? If COVID has taught me anything, I have learned to take advantage of the moment. Don't wait to reconnect, say what you feel, or finally do that thing you've always wanted to do. In 2022, I'm doing a bunch.

My proposal includes a two week trip with Carla—without the kids! And, a mid-winter gathering with my two best

friends who are in Virginia and Colorado. And, another mid-winter escape to Arizona to golf with my Dad. The January/February portion of my sabbatical will tend to my most important adult relationships and end with a silent retreat led by a spiritual director.

In the summer portion, I will focus on the relationships I have with my kids and godchildren (I have seven from the two aforementioned best friends). The week after school is dismissed, my family hopes to travel to the United Kingdom so that we can show our kids where we met on a study abroad in 1997 at Harlaxton Manor. Some of you may know David, my father-in-law, grew up outside Glasgow. For years we have hoped to share time and space there together. Once we return home, we will spend the 4th of July week, as usual with our best friends. What will be unusual is that we will stay in a front row beach house.

I say these things are happening with such confidence because I won the grant! “Lilly” believes in the vision I shared to not only use my sabbatical to capitalize on a bunch of “last, best chances” in my own life, but to encourage my congregation to do the same. And this is where I have a deal FOR YOU, too good to refuse.

As a part of the grant, 20 members of First Lutheran will be given a \$250 micro-grant to cover expenses that help you take a “last, best chance”. Do you have an old roommate you've been meaning to visit? Use the \$250 to fly to visit them. Have you ever wanted to ‘splurge’ on a spa day with your mother-in-law but never felt like you should? Use \$250 to treat yourselves. Want to see Aaron Rodgers play the Vikings one last time in Minneapolis? Use \$250 to take your nephew. I DON'T CARE HOW YOU USE THE \$250... except 1) it's used for the sake of a relationship in your life (not just on yourself, unless it's for a silent retreat. That would be a great way to use it!) and 2) You'll have to share with me

what happened in your experience. How did God work through the experience? Some will write about their experience, others may be recorded on video; others may want to share their story in-person. The only ‘string’ attached to the money is your willingness to share your experience—however you choose—with me and the whole congregation.

My hope is that First Lutheran gathers 20 stories that can be used by everyone to celebrate the relationships God graces us with every day. Relationships deserve special attention and special events. ***You think of the 'last, best chance' you want to take and I'll give you \$250.***

E-mail me with your idea or stop in or call the office. It's a first come, first served kind of thing. I'm excited to see how God reconnects me with my most important relationships. I'm inviting you to share in the fun.

Pastor Jason Stanton
jason@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

In-person, indoors & outdoors, and live streamed at 1stlu.org/live
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.

2021 SMALL GROUPS

Weekly Groups:

Coffee with Pastor Karyn

Courageous Men

Parent Share

Quilters

Knitters

Bi-weekly Groups:

Dorcas Circle

Monthly Groups:

Drawing from the Well

OWLs

(Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Elizabeth Circle

READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Monday, Nov. 1: John 11:32-44

Wednesday, Nov. 3: John 11: 32-44

Sunday, Nov. 7: Mark 12:38-44

Wednesday, Nov. 10: 1 Kings 19:1-18

Sunday, Nov. 14: Mark 13:1-8

Wednesday, Nov. 17: Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

Sunday, Nov. 21: Revelation 1:4b-8

Wednesday, Nov. 24: Isaiah 9:1-7

Sunday, Nov. 28: Luke 21:25-36

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.

Bible MATTERS

Are you looking for the connection between scripture and everyday life? Or maybe a way to dig deeper into the gospel of Luke? If so, join Pastor Karyn for a year-long journey through the lectionary (our schedule of readings) starting Monday, Nov. 8, 7-8pm, meeting in the narthex.

Cost of this class is \$20 for the devotional study book we will use.

Register online at 1stlu.org/bmatters



Questions? Contact karyn@firstlu.org

FAITH ALIVE! U

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

First & Community Impact

Sara Wrobel
Sunday, Nov. 7, noon

Causeway Caregivers has been providing volunteer services since 1986 for elderly and disabled adults within our communities. Sara Wrobel will share how you can participate, support or spread the word about Causeway's programs serving the Coulee Region!

This event is intended for confirmation students, high schoolers and all adults. Childcare will be available in the nursery for kids not yet in grade school.

WAKING UP WHITE

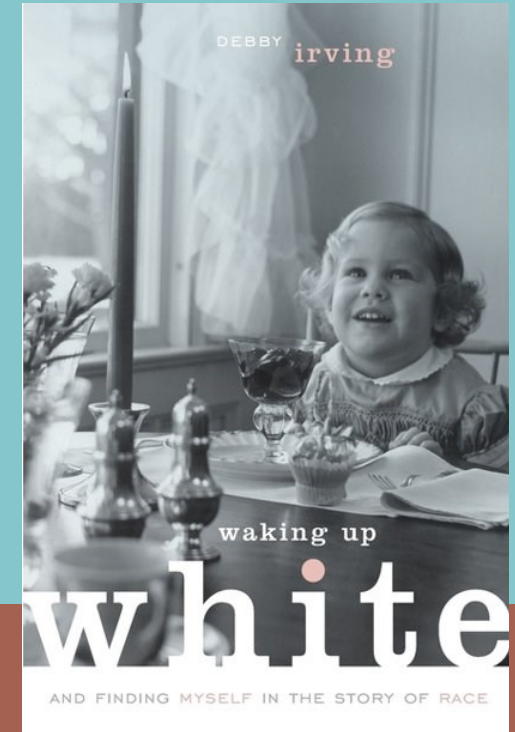
BOOK CHATS

20 book chats: Chats are 90-minute, small group, theme-based facilitated discussions based on a topic raised in the book *Waking Up White*. **Having read the book is not a prerequisite for joining a discussion.**

Mon	11/1	Why Being "Color-Blind" is Not a Good Approach	6:30 PM	The Parenting Place, La Crosse
Thu	11/4	White Savior Complex/My Robin Hood Syndrome	6:30 PM	Our Saviors Lutheran Church
Sat	11/6	Stereotypes and the Language We Use	10 AM	People's Food Co-op, La Crosse
Sat	11/6	Why Being "Color-Blind" is Not a Good Approach	10 AM	Winona Library
Sun	11/7	Unintentionally Defending and Perpetuating the Unfair System	1 PM	West Salem Library
Thu	11/18	What About La Crosse?	12 PM	1407 St. Andrews Street, La Crosse

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Nov 6	How Children Learn About Race and How Adults Can Help Dr. Erin Winkler 10:30 A.M. 1st Congregational Church
Nov 14	Racism as a Public Health Crisis Reggie Jackson and Dr. Fran Kaplan of Nurturing Diversity Partners 1:00 P.M. Viterbo Fine Arts Center 🎵



Waking Up White is the book Debby Irving wishes someone had handed her decades ago. By sharing her sometimes cringe-worthy struggle to understand racism and racial tensions, she offers a fresh perspective on bias, stereotypes, manners, and tolerance. As she unpacks her own long-held beliefs about colorblindness, being a good person, and wanting to help people of color, she reveals how each of these well-intentioned mindsets actually perpetuated her ill-conceived ideas about race. She also explains why and how she's changed the way she talks about racism, works in racially mixed groups, and understands the racial justice movement as a whole.

LA CROSSE WHITE PRIVILEGE SYMPOSIUM 2021

A Vision for Racial Equity: History, Truth and A Call for Action

December 3–4, 2021

La Crosse Center
300 Harborview Plaza, La Crosse, WI 54601

FEES

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL:

Adult \$100 (virtual or in person)
Students \$75 (virtual or in person)

FRIDAY ONLY FOR VIRTUAL KEYNOTE, DEBBY IRVING:

Free (virtual only but registration required)

A full list of workshops/presenters will be available in November. Virtual workshops will be recorded and available for all paid attendees for 21 days following the event.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL

A FULL COVID-19 vaccination or negative COVID-19 test result (dated after 5 pm on November 30, 2021 or later) will be required to attend WPS La Crosse in person.

TPI is committed to family safety, wearing masks, social distancing & sanitizing throughout our events.

#WPS2021LACROSSE-WISCONSIN

Schedule at a glance (*subject to change)

A Vision for Racial Equity: History, Truth and A Call for Action

Friday, Dec. 3

- 5:00 – 6:30 pm Registration Phase I & Doors Open (In - Person Paid attendees)
- 5:00 – 6:25 pm Book Signing, Sales & Moore (In - Person Paid attendees)
- 6:30 – 7:00 pm Welcome to the Community Evening Audience
FREE & OPEN to the PUBLIC (Virtually)
by Arlette Rodriguez-Miller & Ho-Chunk Nation Traditional Opening by Marlon WhiteEagle
(Include Indigenous People's Land Recognition Statement)
- 7:00 – 8:00 pm **#Keynote: Debby Irving**
- 8:00 – 9:00 pm Closing Edu-tainment & Moore (Featuring Jasiri X & Moore)

Saturday, Dec. 4

- 7:00 – 9:30 am Registration Phase II & Doors Open
- 7:00 – 7:30 am Coffee w/the Founder (& TPI Board)
- 8:00 – 8:30 am Official Welcome & Indigenous People's Land Recognition Statement
- 8:30 - 9:30 am **#Keynote: Jasiri X**
- 9:45 – 11:00 am **Workshop Session #1** (HS attends YAP)
- 11:15 – 12:30 pm **Workshops Session #2** (HS attends YAP)
- 12:30 – 2:00 pm Pick-up Box Lunch (with Ticket or list of local places)
Understanding, Respecting & Connecting **#NetworkTime**
*Affinity Space (optional)
- 2:00 – 3:15 pm **Workshops Session #3** (HS attends YAP)
- 3:30 – 4:30 pm **#Keynote: Winona LaDuke**
- 4:30– 5:15 pm Reflections, Reactions, Action Planning & Moore
- 5:15 - 5:30 Closing

A FULL COVID-19 vaccination or negative COVID-19 test result (dated after 5pm on November 30, 2021 or later) will be required to attend WPS La Crosse in person. If you register to attend in person - you can modify it to attend virtually at no charge until December 1, 2021. TPI is committed to family safety, wearing masks, social distancing & sanitizing throughout our events.

SING!

Choir practice begins
Wed., Dec. 8 at 7pm
for Christmas Eve performances

Sign up TODAY at 1stlu.org/choir

For more info contact: todd@firstlu.org



CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

Cancellations
will be posted in the
following ways...

- Website
- Facebook page
- Text message (*update
the office
with your cell #
and provider*)

First intends to 'make the
call' by 5pm so everyone
knows what to expect.

Monday Night Community Meals

For many years, Trinity Lutheran Church on the northside of La Crosse has hosted a meal on Monday nights. First Lutheran has agreed to help with this important community ministry, by preparing a meal, serving the food, and cleaning up for three Mondays starting in August. We need people to plan and prepare the meal to feed 60-80 people, and folks to serve the meal (5-6pm) and help with cleanup. Meal prep can be done at your convenience. Many times people prepare the main course a week ahead and freeze it, and reheat it. Food for the meal can be gotten at no charge from the Hunger Task Force in La Crosse. **The next date is Dec. 13.**

*You can sign up at 1stlu.org/monmeals,
or contact bridget@firstlu.org*

Snow birds: Before you fly drop us a line!

Heading to warmer climes?
Keep us up to date by letting
us know your winter address
& contact info. Contact the
church office with your
updated information:
office@firstlu.org
608.783.2236.



LYLE GRINER: CHURCH IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

Hey... Sunday School teachers! Lenten small group leaders!
Confirmation guides! Peer Ministers! Stephen Ministers!...
and ANY leader of ANY ministry at First Lutheran!...



Lyle Griner, author of Peer Ministry and dozens of other youth & family ministry resources, will be in Onalaska at First Lutheran for an IN PERSON leadership enrichment course on **Saturday, Nov. 6, from 8:30am-4:30pm.**

Lyle is the best there is at getting leaders to not just 'think' about how to facilitate a ministry, but to experience ministry together through RELATIONSHIPS.

We will use lessons from Peer Ministry to broaden and deepen the skills of all our leaders at First.

Join us!

*To RSVP: sign up at 1stlu.org/lyle,
or call the office at 608.783.2236.*

First Lutheran is covering all costs including snacks, beverages and lunch.



Movie screening:

THERE IS A FIELD

Mon., November 15, 6pm

Timely new documentary tells the story of Asel Asleh, an unarmed 17-year old killed by the police, as he participated in a demonstration, calling for an end to the Israeli occupation.



Questions? Email: pastorkentj@gmail.com

Sunshine Team

**The Sunshine Team helps
with outdoor or indoor projects
on the 1st Thursday of the month**

NEXT: Nov. 4, 9:30am

**Rolls and coffee are supplied to
replenish your reserves!**



Questions? Call/text Dave: 608.780.0135



CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS

Items we are getting low on are:

Guys jeans

(especially large and x-large sizes)

Rings, Earrings, and Necklaces

Wallets

*Items may be dropped off in the bins
in the main entry way*



*Confirmation
service opp.*

CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS TEEN VOLUNTEERS

**Volunteers would look at donations
to ensure they appeal to teens, and
put together outfits for displaying
throughout the clothes closet.**

About 4 hours/month.



For more info contact bridget@firstlu.org



WITH OUR NEW status as a debt-free congregation, we now bring total focus on bringing people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. This Changes Lives!

It is the time of year when we start looking forward to how we will Change Lives in 2022. The stewardship team has been hard at work listening to the congregation to identify our focus goals for 2022. With the approval from V&L the Stewardship Campaign for 2022 will take place in January with the goal to increase giving by \$40K. If the increased giving is received, \$10K will be donated to the La Crosse Hunger Task Force, \$10K to the YWCA Homeless Collaborative and \$20K for Faith Formation Ministry, which will go towards paying a full-time faith formation pastor or deacon. You will begin receiving weekly information about the campaign in January, which will end with Stewardship Sunday and the receiving of intent cards on Sunday Jan. 30. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of helping us meet these goals in 2022.

General fund update: Giving for operations (not including the capital campaign and preschool) YTD as of the end of September was \$486,056. That means that through September, we are ahead of budget by \$10,606. Thank you for your continued support. Please consider regular giving via Simply Giving to provide the resources to expand our ministry to Change Lives. If you already participate in Simply Giving, thank you. To enroll sign up at 1stlu.org/giving or call the church office.

Capital campaign update: Thank you to everyone who has already completed their pledge. We are looking forward to receiving the remaining pledges to complete the

Hiring a Faith Formation Director

asbestos abatement in the educational wing. We are happy to report that the new sign, has been installed. V&L has approved the purchase of a used center-aisle bus. A search for a used bus is in progress, but is difficult due to the shortage of used buses and the high cost of used vehicles in general. 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 Stewardship Committee meets monthly and is looking for members. For meeting times contact Pastor Stanton.

*Faithfully submitted,
The Finance & Stewardship Committees*



180 QUILTS ON THEIR WAY

The quilters group at First Lutheran kept working through the pandemic even though covid restrictions meant they couldn't meet at church for most of the past 12 months. Instead, they worked at home and, when it was safe, they would gather to tie quilts in a church member's basement.

The result: 180 quilts were finished before it was time to give them away.

The quilts were displayed on pews and in the narthex the week of Sept. 26.

Thirty of the quilts were sent to Fort McCoy for the Afghan people who are staying there. The rest were boxed up and, on Oct. 9, Ardie Van Riper and Adrian Hagen took them to the Lutheran World Relief collection site for distribution throughout the world.

The quilters resumed meeting at the church in early September, and gather in the Fireside room on Tuesdays at 9am.

SERVE & GIVE

GO AND DO
LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

SUNSHINE TEAM

The Sunshine Team meets at First Lutheran on the **first Thursday of the month at 9:30am** to help with various jobs. Help make First Lutheran look nice! Refreshments are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free! *Questions? Text/call Dave at 608.780.0135.*

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer! **Tuesday, Nov. 23, at 10am**, to assemble the December and January mini-newsletter. See you there!

stephen
MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry will hold training classes starting in January. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, contact Gloria Kubiak, Randy Nedrelo or Pastor Karyn (karyn@firstlu.org). Keep an eye out for more information in the coming months.

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



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. Make certain tags are attached to the outside of the wrapped gift. If you purchase gift cards, please wrap them in a box.

Tags available Nov. 14.

Gifts should all be turned in to First Lutheran by Sunday, Dec. 12.

Questions? Email bridget@firstlu.org



Thank you to all who walked and donated to the 3rd annual Coulee Region Hunger Walk. It was warm and sunny on October 10, and 150-200 people from the community participated in-person to walk and run. First Lutheran's very own Jim Knutson entertained us with music while walkers and runners checked in and gathered together with friends, school groups, church members and family. Donations are still coming in, but we hit \$19,000. A big thank you to the First Lutheran Foundation for contributing \$1,000.

The Coulee Region Hunger Walk (CRHW) became an organization in the fall of 2019. It hosted the first event after becoming a recognized nonprofit organization. CRHW organized to support hunger in the local La Crosse Community. 30% of funds raised go to both The Hunger Task Force, which is our local food bank and Wafer, a large local food pantry. The remaining 40% is donor directed and includes local school pantries, the Onalaska Food Pantry and some international organizations such as ELCA World Hunger.

FALL BACK!

Daylight saving time ends at **2am, Sunday, Nov. 7**. Don't forget to change your clocks! (Otherwise you'll just be early to church!)

BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

All order forms must be turned in to the church office, with the money, on or before **Sunday, Nov. 7, at 11:30am**. Orders will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, Nov. 17, after 1:30pm.

FAMILY PHOTOS: A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

All Saints 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 Saints Sunday, Nov. 7**. 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 received a letter with a special request.

All Saints 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.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

A little later than our usual worship on **Wednesday, Nov. 24**, members of First are invited to join in a special, ecumenical worship service that Thanksgiving Eve at 6:30pm, at Onalaska United Methodist, 212 4th Ave N, Onalaska, WI 54650.

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.*

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.*

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

- Maeby Dawn Campbell
- Zorah Simone Pierre
- Harrison James Hand

WEDDINGS

God's blessings to...

- Kelli Janecek & Warren Paulson
- Mark Abitz & Debi Smith

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

- Vivian Mullikin
- Ruth Gullikson

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Thank you for the following memorials:

In honor of Helen Halverson's 100th birthday

- Undesignated: Nancy Beguin, Keith & Jo Ann Briggs

In memory of Doug Cornforth

- Undesignated: Meme Mihalovic

In memory of Richard & Phyllis Wood

- First Helping Hands: Karen Meier

In memory of Jean A. Allen

- World Hunger: C.J. Allen

In memory of Joyce Kapp

- Illuminate the stained glass window: Carol Pestel

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.

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.

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/oils/extracts 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**.



FIRST LUTHERAN
PRESCHOOL

Preschool Update

We have an opening in our T/Th class!
Class runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from
8:30-11am or 12pm with optional Lunch Bunch.
Email us for more information!

Mark your calendars for March 2022 for
registration for the 2022-2023 school year!
We will have preschool tours, info on how to
register and forms available.



**What parents are
saying about
First Lutheran
Preschool...**

I feel like my child is truly getting a well-rounded preschool experience at First Lutheran Preschool. In addition to letters, numbers, handling scissors and glue, she is also learning kindness, patience and problem solving skills that will give her a head start in her education journey!

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

Parents' Night Out

Bring your children for an evening of fun with the middle and high school youth groups' fundraiser!

WHERE: at First Lutheran, **WHEN:** Friday, Dec. 17
FOR: Birth-12 are welcome (Birth-3 will be in the nursery, ages 4 and up in Fellowship Hall)

Registration from 4:45-5:30pm

Followed by dinner and activities till 8:30pm
(parents can pick up early if needed)

COST: Donations will assist the middle and high school students with 2022 Sugar Creek Bible camp and ELCA Youth Gathering.

Advent Around the Table

We invite everyone to join us on
Sunday, Nov. 28 at 9:15am in Fellowship Hall for this annual tradition. We will gather to create advent crafts for our homes. Along the way we will learn more about this particular season, have great fellowship and grow in our faith as we kick off the Advent season.

Sunday School

FAITH BUILDING BLOCKS

Preschool: Praying Together

Sunday, Nov. 7: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship



Grade 1: Ten Commandments, in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Nov. 7: parents/guardians only

Sundays, Nov. 14 & 21: parents/guardians with children

Sunday, Nov. 28: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship



Throughout the year each age group has a special "Faith Building Block" session in which parents or special adults are asked to attend class with their child. Most sessions last for four weeks. The first class consists of parents/guardians connecting with a pastor and other parents in Fellowship Hall. 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.

New registrations welcome any time of the year!

Questions? Head to 1stlu.org/sunschool



BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

The Butter Braids are on sale **now and through Sunday, Nov. 7.**

Youth raising money for youth ministries have two options:

1) go to 1stlu.org/bbraids to set up an online account and receive a link to share with fam & friends to raise money, or 2) pick up an order form, from the church office, to raise funds in-person.

All orders, both online and on paper, must be placed/turned in to the church office by Sunday, Nov. 7, at 11:30am, WITH MONEY.

Orders will be delivered by the youth you placed the order through on Wednesday, Nov. 17.

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.

GO N I 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

UPCOMING CONFIRMATION EVENTS

Sundays, 9:15am
Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays, 7pm
Gr 8-9 Small Groups
Except no class on Nov. 24

Sunday, Nov. 7, Noon
Confirmation Elective
Faith Alive! U: Causeway Caregivers



FAITH ALIVE! U

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

First & Community Impact

Sara Wrobel
Sunday, Nov. 7, noon

Causeway Caregivers has been providing volunteer services since 1986 for elderly and disabled adults within our communities. Sara Wrobel will share how you can participate, support or spread the word about Causeway's programs serving the Coulee Region!

This event is intended for confirmation students, high schoolers and all adults. Childcare will be available in the nursery for kids not yet in grade school.



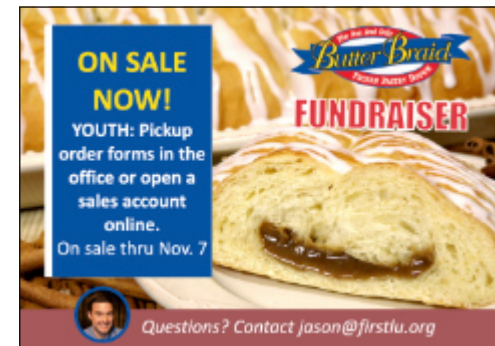
MEETING FOR ELCA YOUTH GATHERING Sunday, Nov. 14, 11:30am in the narthex

The ELCA Youth Gathering is less than a year away! July 24–28, 2022... in our very own backyard of Minneapolis! The gathering is open to all youth entering grades 9–12 in the fall of 2022, plus 2022 graduates.

Early bird registration due by Nov. 21, 2021!

Reg form & info: 1stlu.org/gathering.

Come to this informational meeting to this meeting to ask questions and learn about what's next in the journey to the Gathering!



BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

The Butter Braids are on sale **now and through Sunday, Nov. 7.**

Youth raising money for youth ministries have two options:

1) go to 1stlu.org/bbraids to set up an online account and receive a link to share with fam & friends to raise money, or 2) pick up an order form, from the church office, to raise funds in-person.

All orders, both online and on paper, must be placed/turned in to the church office by Sunday, Nov. 7, at 11:30am, WITH MONEY.

Orders will be delivered by the youth you placed the order through on Wednesday, Nov. 17.

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.



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



OLDER WISER LUTHERANS

The OWLs had a fabulous September with 25 of us enjoying a dinner cruise on the La Crosse Queen and a fun potluck on the Narvesons' deck. October saw our first Halloween party/potluck. Good times were had by all. Come join us in November and December for holiday fun.

We will kick off November attending a concert in the Pump House's newly remodeled auditorium. This event will feature the folk singing duo Storyhill. They are from Bozeman, Montana, a folk duo that brings infectious melodies, smart story songs and heartbreaking harmonies together in one perfect package. "Their sound recalls the harmonious interplay of Simon & Garfunkel and the acoustic juice of the Indigo Girls," - *Billboard Magazine*. The evening will begin with dinner at Piggy's which is right across the street from the Pump House so we only have to park the cars once. We are still without a bus so we will all meet at Piggy's at **5:30pm on Friday, Nov. 12**. Cost of the concert is \$30, dinner is on your own. You can park in the lot next to the Pump House. Since these concerts many times sell out please contact Brian Narveson at owls@firstlu.org or call 630.816.5917 to reserve a spot as soon as possible. Brian will buy the tickets when you reserve. You can pay him for the tickets the night of the concert. At the time of this writing the Pump House has the following

COVID-19 policy: All theater ticket holders **must show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or a negative PCR COVID-19 test within 72 hours of a performance at the Pump House**. Don't forget your vaccine card or test results.

The November **potluck will be Wednesday, Nov. 17, in the fellowship hall at noon**. Since it is close to Thanksgiving, bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish or desert to share. For the program, Brian and Mary Narveson will show photos and tell stories about their recent trip to the national parks of Utah. You can look forward to a whirlwind tour of Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capital Reef, Arches and Canyon lands National Park, with a few photos of some national monuments thrown in. Don't miss a chance to see the beauty of these national treasures.

December will bring the "Social Event of the Season," the almost world famous OWLs Christmas Party and Potluck. This not-to-be missed event will take place on **Wednesday, Dec. 15 at noon in the narthex**. Bring a favorite Christmas dish to share and some of those not-to-be-missed Christmas sweets. The annual "Who is most ready for Christmas" contest will be held, with a fabulous prize. There will be a gift exchange for those who want to participate. If you bring a gift, you get one. Participation is not required. The gift theme this year is "Christmas socks.. Start shopping now so you find some really good ones. Don't miss this annual event of fun, food, games and fellowship.

The Christmas outing has not been decided at this time, it will be announced at the November potluck and via email.



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/oils/extracts of any kind onto the church campus. This is for the safety of all of our members. Thanks!

Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Instead of worshipping at First,
members are invited to a special
ecumenical worship service
at Onalaska United Methodist
212 4th Ave N, Onalaska
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 24, 6:30pm

Drawing from the Well

For women of First and the greater
La Crosse area seeking to support one
another in their spiritual growth.

Meeting in the narthex.

NEXT: Saturday, Nov. 13, 9:30am



Contact Bridget for info: bridget@firstlu.org

10TH ANNUAL

Onalaska & Holmen
Community Thanksgiving Dinner



Onalaska Community Thanksgiving Dinner
November 25, from 11–2pm
at the Onalaska American Legion

Curbside pickup; FREE and open to the public

Donations & volunteers needed: www.octd.org



SUGAR CREEK
BIBLE CAMP

SUGAR CREEK
BIBLE CAMP

2021 Upcoming Events

- Nov. 11–14: SCBC Craft Retreat
- Dec. 3: Road to Bethlehem – Advent Experience
- Dec. 6: Yesterday's Youth – Sr. Adult Day Event

Contact camp for more info and to RSVP for all events:
camp@sgrcreek.org • 608.734.3113

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

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>OCTOBER</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 31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints' Day</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9a Quilters - FS 1:30p Staff Meeting 5p Bells Practice - Sacristy</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30a Sunshine Team 7p Women of the House</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7p AA - FH</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Daylight Savings Ends Tonight!</p> <p>8:30a Lyle Griner: Church is About Relationships</p>
<p>7</p> <p>All Saints Sunday</p> <p>Butter Braid Order Deadline</p> <p>Preschool FBB: Praying together, lifted up in wor...</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH 12p Faith Alive! U: First Lutheran and Community Impact - SN</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7p AA - FS 7p Bible Matters</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9a Quilters - FS 10:30a Staff Meeting 5p Bells Practice - Sacristy 7p Stephen Ministry - FS</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10a Ona Terrace Worship</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30p OWLs Fly to Storyhill 7p AA - FS</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30a Drawing from the Well - NX</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH 11:30a ELCA Youth Gathering Mtg - NX</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Deadline for Dec/Jan Mini Newsletter</p> <p>1p Elizabeth Circle 7p AA - FS 7p Bible Matters</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9a Quilters - FS 10:30a Staff Meeting 5p Bells Practice - Sacristy 7p Vision & Leadership Team Mtg</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10a Ona Terrace Worship 12p OWLs Potluck - FH 12p Finance Team Mtg</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Early Bird Reg Deadline for Gathering</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7p AA - FS 7p Bible Matters</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9a Quilters - FS 10a Assemble Mini-Newsletter - NX 10:30a Staff Meeting 5p Bells Practice - Sacristy 5:15p Personnel Team Mtg 7p Stephen Ministry - FS</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30p Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship - Onalaska UMC</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Thanksgiving (office closed)</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments, lifted up in worship</p> <p>9:15a Advent Around the Table - FH</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7p AA - FS 7p Bible Matters</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9a Quilters - FS 10:30a Staff Meeting 5p Bells Practice - Sacristy</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30a Sunshine Team 7p Women of the House</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Waking Up White Symposium - La Crosse C</p> <p>7p AA - FH</p>	<p>DECEMBER</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 31</p>

weekly events for

NOVEMBER

at First Lutheran

SUNDAYS

8:00am Worship

9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes - FS

9:15am Parent Share - UR

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

TUESDAYS

9:00am Quilters - FS

10:30am Staff Meeting

5:00pm Bells Practice - Sacristy

WEDNESDAYS

6:00am Courageous Men - Zoom

6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Zoom

5:30pm Knitters & Crocheters - NX

6:15pm Worship

7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Confirmation Small Groups (except Nov. 24)



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

We give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who publicly affirmed their baptism on

Sunday, Oct. 24.

- Brennan Garbers
- Claire Johnson
- Cole Everson
- Cullen O'Rourke
- Drew Symons
- Jada Odegard
- Juliene McDonald
- Katie Johnson
- Kevin Hegland
- Kyla Betz
- McKennah Ferguson
- Nic Hink
- Nick Jacobson
- Sam Bossman
- Samantha Renkas
- Sarah Brewer
- Steve Dombroski
- Taylor Hanson
- Tristan Madsen
- Zach Dahlke

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.

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

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Larry Schreiner President
Jennifer Wiesjahn Vice President
Diane Shuda Secretary
Donna Bossman
Derrick Knight
Michelle Renkas
Jason Witt



**FIRST
LUTHERAN**

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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



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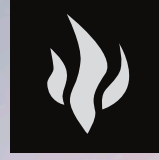
**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

edition: November 2021

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FIRST LUTHERAN

GOOD NEWS

NOVEMBER 2021

LYLE GRINER: CHURCH IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

ministry leadership

ALSO INSIDE

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

FAITH ALIVE! U: FIRST & COMMUNITY IMPACT

CHRISTMAS EVENTS INSERT

#faithalive365