



FIRST LUTHERAN

# GOOD NEWS!

NOVEMBER 2022

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

SEE ALSO...

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-  [youtube.com/1stlu](https://youtube.com/1stlu)
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- [#faithalive365](https://faithalive365)

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## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STANTON



SINCE FIRST LUTHERAN'S Call Committee formed in May of 2021, we have been excited, disappointed, surprised and anxious to name just a few of the feelings we've processed together. It's been a while since we've provided an update on our search for a Youth & Family minister, so I thought I'd share our current status. It is familiar territory for the Call Committee, at this point.

In January, I will celebrate 15 years since arriving at First Lutheran to serve as Pastor and our financial capacity has finally grown to a level where our Office of Ministry can include a third person. Having a full time, benefited Pastor serve our youth and families will provide expertise along with a true sense of call which hopefully translates into longevity and consistency within

our ministries to young people and their families. Calling a third pastor will also allow for me and Pastor Karyn to attend more fully to adult ministries, caring ministries, visitation, teaching, online content and so much more.

Over the last year and a half, the Synod Office has provided some solid candidates. Pastor Karyn and I have exhausted our own networks. And we have talked to anyone with interest. I have spoken to dozens of pastors about this call and the Call Committee has interviewed four of them. Three of them have had multiple interviews with us, but for a variety of reasons, the 'fit' has not been found.

Wise administrators have told me to 'hire slow', but this feels ridiculous! I'm kidding, of course, as I do not regret

*Continues on page 2*

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KARYN



### *Wider Welcome, Deeper Love*

WHAT DOES THIS mean? This is a question that I have gotten a lot in the last couple of months. So often we want solutions, things easily checked off a list but wider welcome, deeper love is not that—it is a way of life that is open and loving to all we encounter. Sometimes that is a brief moment in a drive thru line and other times that is walking with someone for a long period of time. It is also a way of life that is open to changing the ways we speak and the ways we act when we realize that what we are saying or doing causes harm. Which is good news for those of you who want something concrete to do as you begin living your life of wider welcome and deeper love.

A month or so ago I was preaching and as happens often, I went off script. This is usually the Spirit leading me somewhere but sometimes it is me trying to be funny or add some relevant and timely anecdote. That was what happened that day and as soon as the words left my mouth I wanted to grab them back. What did I say, you may ask? Well I was listing things and then I said, "and the LGBTQIA+ issue". Now, I know most of you heard that and didn't think a single thing about it, but I also know what members of the LGBTQIA+ community have shared about being considered "an issue". I don't know about you, but I don't like to think I am ever an issue for anyone because that means I am in trouble or a problem. That is how folks in the community feel every time we say "LGBTQIA+ issue". It isn't a issue for them to be who they

*Continues on page 2*

I want this candidate to see what God is up to among us

any part of how our Call Committee or the candidates themselves have faithfully served throughout this discernment. But we all wish our new pastor would be presented to us, through the power of the Holy Spirit sooner than later, which is why I'm asking you for your prayers.

Later this month, we have another second interview scheduled with a very strong candidate. This pastor is exceptionally qualified, with great passion for youth ministry and has a story that compliments both Pastor Karyn's and my own. Like most vocations, the pastoral 'labor force supply' is far smaller than demand. So, this candidate has options for where they may land in their next call. Please pray with me that our Call Committee, pastors and staff provide a clear, faithful picture of what life in Onalaska

is like and that our church is trying to grow in every way. I want this candidate to see what God is up to among us as we seek to offer wider welcome and deeper love inside our fellowship and beyond our walls. Pray with me that their time with us in November will provide an irresistible opportunity to answer God's call to serve our church for years to come. Or, another way to pray this prayer is what I've been saying since May 2021, "Thy will be done..."

Thank you!

Pastor Jason Stanton  
jason@firstlu.org

There is great value in the trying and lots of grace as we make our way forward.

have been created to be until we as members of the hetero/cis community make it so. This is where wider welcome and deeper love comes in. The issue is with us, so it is up to us to figure out how to be better. That can be as simple as not referring to the ways we are working for justice for the LGBTQIA+ community as "an issue". Instead we can simply say "we are working on finding justice for LGBTQIA+ community". This small change can make a difference, not just in our own thinking and being but in the people who aren't a problem needing to be solved. In that small change, they know a wider welcome and a deeper love because they hear they are a valued member of our church.

Sometimes it feels overwhelming when we realize there is a lot we don't know or realize causes harm. I am in that place often. What I have learned is to listen with love and change my behavior accordingly, even if I don't "get it". It rarely hurts me to make a

small change in my vocabulary or actions and it has a big impact on those around me. And when I mess up, I have learned to apologize and try again, knowing that there is great value in the trying and lots of grace as we make our way forward.

Wider welcome, deeper love is a journey in following Jesus more deeply that we will make together and how we live that out will look differently in you than it does in me, but at the core it is about showing up and showing the love of God to all our neighbors in small ways each day that add up to big, open love.

Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz  
karyn@firstlu.org

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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 newsletter, send it to newsletter@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. **Deadline for the newsletter is noon on the 15th of the preceding 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 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.

## 2022 SMALL GROUPS

### Weekly Groups:

Coffee with Pastor Karyn

Courageous Men

Parent Share

Quilters

Knitters

### Monthly Groups:

Dorcas Circle

Drawing from the Well

OWLs  
(Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Elizabeth Circle

## READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

Tuesday, Nov. 1, All Saints Day: Luke 6:20-31

Wednesday, Nov. 2: 1 Kings 3:4-28

Sunday, Nov. 6: Luke 20:27-38

Wednesday, Nov. 9: 2 Kings 5:1-15a

Sunday, Nov. 13: Luke 21:5-19

Wednesday, Nov. 16: Micah 1:3-5, 5:2-5a; 6:6-8

Sunday, Nov. 20: Luke 23:33-43

Wednesday, Nov. 23: Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4

Wednesday, Nov. 30: 1:1-7; 2:1-4, 3:3b-6, 17-19

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).

## THE GOSPEL OF Matthew

Are you looking for a connection between scripture and everyday life? Or maybe a way to dig deeper into the gospel of Matthew? If so, join Pastor Karyn for one or both of these opportunities: **On Nov. 14 and 21, from 6-7pm, an overview of the gospel Matthew... and starting on Nov. 21 at 7pm, a year-long journey through the lectionary (our schedule of readings). Both will meet in the narthex. Cost of the year-long class is \$20 for the devotional study book we will use.**

**More info & reg at [1stlu.org/bmatters](http://1stlu.org/bmatters).**



Questions? Contact [karyn@firstlu.org](mailto:karyn@firstlu.org)

## Christmas Giving Tree



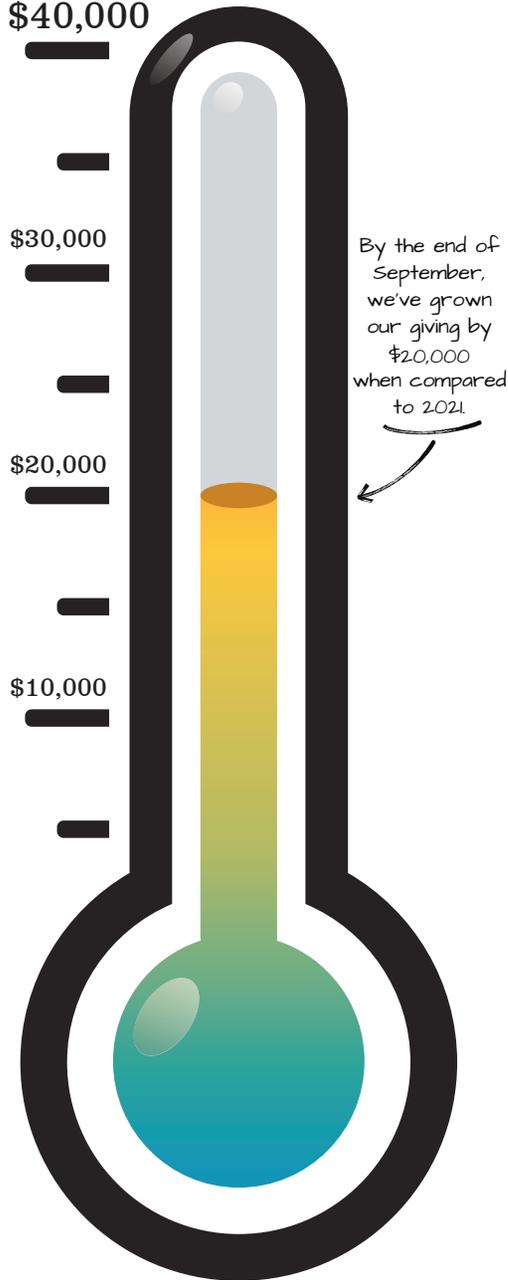
Help make Christmas special for area kids and families by buying NEW items for them. We are again partnering with La Crosse County Human Services, and have a list of people and items they or their social worker have requested. Make certain tags are attached to the outside of the wrapped gift. If you 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. 11.**

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

GOAL  
\$40,000



By the end of September, we've grown our giving by \$20,000 when compared to 2021.



THANK YOU FOR your continued financial support as we focus on bringing people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. This

Changes Lives! We have now completed the first 9 months of 2022. Everyone's continued generosity is moving us toward our goal of funding 3 initiatives through increased giving. As a reminder we have 3 big dreams for 2022.

For 2022, our stewardship goal of \$40,000 of increased giving will enable us to accomplish: \$10k for hunger, \$10k for homelessness and \$20K for faith formation ministries.

We have made great strides, by the end of September, together we've grown our giving by \$20,000 when compared to 2021. Thank you to

everyone for your faithful giving so far. Receiving \$20K so far is a great accomplishment. We are definitely making progress toward the ambitious goals we made in February.

**We will meet our goal of increasing giving by \$40K with just a little extra help. If each of our families increases their regular giving by \$10 a month for Sept- Dec. or makes a one-time equivalent offering (\$40), we will change lives by providing food, shelter and faith formation ministries. Watch the giving thermometer in the narthex for additional progress towards our goal.**

While we keep our focus on 2022 the Stewardship team is looking forward to 2023 and what can be done to accomplish our goals of Welcoming All, Serving our Neighbors and Building

Community. Watch this space, your mailbox, email and our Facebook page for news about the January 2023 Stewardship Campaign.

General Fund Update: Giving for Operations (not including the capital campaign and pre-school) YTD as of the end of Sept was \$471,755. That means that through September, we are behind budget by \$29,489.17. 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 are already participating in Simply Giving, thank you. To enroll sign up at [1stlu.org/giving](http://1stlu.org/giving) or call the church office.

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 and Stewardship Committees*

**A Welcoming Place Along Your Journey:** Causeway offers the OASIS Respite Program for Coulee Region individuals in the beginning to mid stages of a dementia, Alzheimer's Disease or other brain related diagnosis. OASIS supports caregivers through OASIS by providing socialization and brain enrichment activities for their loved ones, allowing caregivers to focus on themselves.

Currently, respite is provided on Thursday from 11am -3pm at First Free Church in Onalaska with a suggested donation of \$20 per attendance. OASIS is also hoping to add a day of respite to further support caregivers. This additional day is dependent on volunteers.



### **Volunteer! Connections for Caring**

Volunteering within OASIS is rewarding and fits into your schedule, because you set your availability on respite days. You can also be an ongoing or a substitute volunteer. Bring a friend along with you for sharing the experience! Orientation and training are provided to new volunteers with ongoing support for all volunteers. Contact OASIS at (608) 780-0471 or [oisirespiteprogram@gmail.com](mailto:oisirespiteprogram@gmail.com) to get started.

## SERVE & GIVE

### SUNSHINE TEAM

The Sunshine Team meets at First Lutheran on the **first Thursday of the month at 9:30am** to help with various jobs. NEXT: Nov. 3. Help make First Lutheran look nice! Refreshments are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free! *Questions? Contact Dan at [dan@firstlu.org](mailto:dan@firstlu.org).*

### NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer! **Monday, Nov. 28, at 10am**, to assemble the Dec/Jan mini-newsletter. See you there!

### CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS

Hello First Lutheran, can you help us? First Teen Clothes Closet (FTCC) has needs to fill:

- All sizes - Graphic t-shirts
- XS, S, M, L - athletic pants
- XS, S - athletic shorts
- XS, L lounging pants/pj's
- XL Hoodies
- Wallets & fun jewelry

Please be sure donations are gently used or new, clean, and teen styles; place in the bins at the main entrance.

*Thank you! FTCC Chair Committee*

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).

GO AND DO  
LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

### CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Do you like music? Do you enjoy singing, even if it's in the shower? Do you appreciate the power of music in worship? Then put all of these things together and join the First Lutheran Senior Choir! First Lutheran is excited to offer the "festival choir" format for adding your vocal talents to worship! We know that the busy lives we all lead can limit the number of volunteer activities to which we are able to commit. The next event the choir will rehearse for is Christmas Eve. Practice begins **Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 7pm** in the sanctuary. All are welcome... there is no audition and no formal training required, just a desire to enhance worship through the beauty of music! And the time commitment is just for the one performance (not the entire year). Full schedule and sign-up at [1stlu.org/choir](http://1stlu.org/choir). If needed, child care will be made available (just indicate this need on the sign-up form).

*For more info contact Todd Saner at [todd@firstlu.org](mailto:todd@firstlu.org).*

### 2023 SYNOD DELEGATION TO PERU

Planning is underway for an upcoming delegation to our companion church, Iglesia Luterana del Perú (the Lutheran Church of Peru) or IL-P, for the **end of July through the first week of August, 2023**. *Deadline for application is Nov. 21, 2022. Application form and info at [lacrosseareasyndod.org](http://lacrosseareasyndod.org).*



Members of First Lutheran have started a Meal Train page for Nancy Beguin

Sign up for a date to make a meal at [1stlu.org/mealtrain](http://1stlu.org/mealtrain)



## WARMING CENTER

It's that time of year again!

The Warming Center will be opening Nov. 1 for unhoused people, and the area ELCA churches have agreed to provide evening meals the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, November–April. Prepare the meal in your kitchen and drop it off at the Warming Center ready to be served. Other people serve the meal, you just prepare it. You are welcome to use the Hunger Task Force for meal ingredients.



*Sign up at [1st.org/warm](https://1st.org/warm)*

*Contact Bridget for info: [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@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 or at [1stlu.org/directory](https://1stlu.org/directory))*

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. 19.**

*You can sign up at [1stlu.org/monmeals](https://1stlu.org/monmeals), or contact [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@firstlu.org) 608.783.2236.



## FAMILY PHOTOS: A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

We honor our brothers and sisters in Christ who have gone before us during a special worship service **at noon on All Saints Day, Tuesday, Nov. 1**, both in-person and live streamed at [1stlu.org/live](http://1stlu.org/live).

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 at All Saints worship. These pictures can be sent electronically (to [karyn@firstlu.org](mailto: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 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.

## FALL BACK!

Daylight saving time ends at **2am, Sunday, Nov. 6**. Don't forget to change your clocks! (Otherwise you'll just be early to church!)

## ELECTION DAY OF PRAYER

This year, on **Tuesday, Nov. 8**, in answer to the call to fear, love and trust God above all things, First is calling everyone to practice our faith and citizenship by praying together on Election Day.

- First seeks to pray every hour for a Spirit-led election process. Go to [1stlu.org/electionprayer](http://1stlu.org/electionprayer) to sign up for any given hour, but it is not expected that you would pray for the whole hour.
- First will worship together, in-person and live streamed, at 6:15pm. This will be a short prayer service centered around a specific scripture and include some songs and a reflection, and will include Holden Evening Prayer.

## BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

Orders will be available for pick-up on **Monday, Nov. 14, after 1:30pm**.

## THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

A little later than our usual worship on **Wednesday, Nov. 23**, members of First are invited to join in a special, ecumenical worship service that **Thanksgiving Eve at 6:30pm**, at First Lutheran, with a our brothers and sisters in christ from Onalaska United Methodist.

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

The pastors are considering baptisms on an individual basis. The next baptism preparation session will be **Saturday, Dec. 3, 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.

## WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM

- Eleanor Ann Gilman
- Sloane Marie DeBell
- Avery Rose Hand
- Mason Matthew Trussoni
- Mira Lou Ann Alibrandi

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

- Gary Olds
- Lowell Meier
- Mary Ellen Olson

## NEW MEMBERS

*I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."*

We extend a warm welcome to our new members of First Lutheran, who were formally received on Sunday, Oct. 23.

- T.J. Barth
- Amy Ellickson
- Beau & Summer Elston, Mason, Preston & Delaney
- Joel & Roxanne Guberud
- John & Meredith Hink, Nicolas & Saydee
- Peter & Kathy Kirkegaard
- David Olson
- Madalyn Olson
- Tyler & Emily Petit
- Nolan & Whitney Schmidt
- Joanne Steele

## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

*Thank you for the following memorials:*

### In memory of Patty Hass

- Undesignated: Pam Wolfert

### In memory of Gary Olds

- First Lutheran Foundation Fund: Nancy Holthaus, LeRoy & Neta Niedfelt
- Undesignated: William Card, Neale & Sheryl Horman, Janice Klimke Geri & Jack Mulliner, Ardie Van Ripper

### In memory of Lowell Meier

- Undesignated: Shirley Lappin, friends & family of Lowell Meier

### In memory of Pastor Charles Gavin

- Skogen Memorial Music Fund: Judy Johnson

# WELCOMING JOY



THE HOLIDAYS CAN be so stressful as we try so hard to make it picture-perfect inside and outside of our homes. I know I tried that picture-perfect look,

especially when my girls were young. The pressure to do it all and have it all affects most of us. I have had to cut back on doing a lot of things that I did when my girls were young, but one of the things I will not give up is an advent study, wreath and/or calendar. It helps me remember what the season is all about.

As we all prepare for the coming holiday season, I hope you will keep in mind the ways you can be a welcoming presence during the Christmas season here at church. Welcoming everyone is such an important ministry here at First, especially during Advent and Christmas. We have opportunities to welcome all by being a door greeter, an usher, a coffee host, or being behind the welcome center. Each of these positions has one requirement: to be able to smile. Like I said in my last newsletter article, a smile goes a long way in making everyone feel welcomed and loved here at church.

It's important that we have people smiling when greeting as others come into church. When handing out the announcement page, a smile will help those new to worship feel at ease. Smiling as you fill coffee and juice cups will make those staying for fellowship feel welcome. And, we most definitely need smiles when meeting someone new or old friends at the welcome center. Smiling makes everyone feel comfortable in new surroundings or when our lives aren't going as well as we expected. A smile gives joy to those

**Smiling makes everyone feel comfortable in new surroundings or when our lives aren't going as well as we expected.**

around you and gives you joy within. Just try it sometime; smile and see what happens to you and those around you. This is the season of JOY. Let's spread some joy around by smiling and being a part of our greeters, ushers, coffee hosts and the welcome center.

*Kathryn Pedretti*  
Director of Hospitality  
kathryn@firstlu.org

## First Lutheran Preschool is Now Enrolling for Nov 1st!



We have spots in our MWF class and TTh class.  
Email us for more info!  
preschool@firstlu.org

# 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, Nov. 18  
**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 8pm**  
(parents can pick up early if needed)

**COST:** Donations will assist the middle and high school students with 2023 Sugar Creek Bible camp and mission trip.

# Advent Around the Table

We invite everyone to join us on  
**Sunday, Nov. 27 at 9:15am in**

**Fellowship Hall** for this annual tradition. We will gather to create advent crafts for our homes, and costumes for the Christmas Program. 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

**Grade Preschool: Praying Together**, in Fellowship Hall  
Sunday, Nov. 6: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship



**Grade 1: 10 Commandments**, in Fellowship Hall  
Sunday, Nov. 6: parents/guardians only  
Sundays, Nov. 13 & 20: parents/guardians with children  
Sunday, Nov. 27: 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](https://1stlu.org/sunschool)*

# PACK A SHOEBOX!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD®

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world!



**\$20  
a box!**



## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

**WILL BE PACKING BOXES 11/9**



SHOEBOXES WILL BE FOR BOYS 10-14 (LEAST PURCHASED FOR GROUP). THEY WILL INCLUDE A DEFLATED SOCCER BALL, PUMP, DECK OF CARDS, CINCH BAG, PENS, DICE, WHISTLE, SUNGLASSES, WASHCLOTH, SOCKS, TOOTHBRUSH & THE PLASTIC "SHOEBOX" THEY COME IN.

WE WILL START WITH CONFIRMATION GROUPS. THEN WILL OPEN IT UP TO THE REST OF THE CONGREGATION. WE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT IF POSSIBLE! WE WILL PRAY OVER THE BOXES & TRACK WHERE THEY GO! [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org)

# GO 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

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

Wednesdays, 7pm  
**Gr 8-9 Small Groups**  
*Except no small groups on Nov. 23*

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7pm  
**Operation Christmas Child: Shoebox Packing**



# OWLS

OLDER WISER LUTHERANS

The OWLs have really been enjoying the nice fall weather. We had a wonderful boat ride out of Winona, visited Villa Louis in Prairie du Chien and attended a show choir concert at Viterbo. We finished October with a potluck Halloween costume contest and a wonderful story teller. We are looking forward to the holiday season with the annual Christmas party.

In November we will have our monthly potluck on **Wednesday, Nov. 16, at noon** in the fellowship hall. So close to Thanksgiving we ask everyone to bring their favorite Thanksgiving dish to pass. For the program Brian and Mary will tell stories and show photos from their summer trip to Glacier National Park (NP), Yellowstone NP, Devils Tower National Monument and Badlands NP. Take a little trip out west without leaving home.

For our November outing we will see a UWL play *Last Train to Nibroc* on **Saturday, Nov. 5**, at the Fredrick Theater. *Last Train to Nibroc* is a simple, honest and genuine play about a young man and woman who meet on a train at the beginning of World War II. Raleigh has just been discharged from the military due to his epilepsy, while May is returning from a disappointing visit with her fiancé on leave in California. After May grudgingly allows Raleigh to sit next to her, it kicks off a love story that runs the length of the war. The two come to find out that they

grew up in neighboring small towns in Kentucky. May is returning to hers, but Raleigh is taking the train all the way to New York City. There, he dreams of becoming a writer, much like recently deceased F. Scott Fitzgerald and Nathanael West—who are in the baggage car. We will meet at the church at 4:45pm and have dinner together at a local restaurant. The play is \$18 and dinner is on your own. Please contact Brian Narveson ([owl@firstlu.org](mailto:owl@firstlu.org) or 630.816.5917) if you would like to join us for this wonderful evening of food, fellowship and romance.

December will once again be highlighted by the social event of the season: the never to be missed OWLs Christmas Party. The incredible event will take place on **Wednesday, Dec. 21 at noon** in the Narthex. Mark this date for fun, food and Christmas cheer.

The OWLs will also attend a Christmas concert that has not been determined at this time. Watch for the OWLs monthly email for time and place. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, email Brian Narveson at [owls@firstlu.org](mailto:owls@firstlu.org). OWLs are open to everyone 55+, as we Welcome All.

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*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](mailto: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!*





## *All Saints Worship*

**Tuesday, Nov. 1  
Noon worship**

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

# ★ Election Day of Prayer ★

On Nov. 8, we at First Lutheran are calling all to a day of prayer.

First, we are inviting people to sign up at [1stlu.org/electionvigil](https://1stlu.org/electionvigil) to pray each hour of the day starting at 5am and ending at midnight. Second, we'll have a prayer service at 6:15pm, both in-person and live streamed.

## *Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship*

Members are invited to a special ecumenical worship service  
**at First Lutheran**  
**on Wed., Thanksgiving Eve, at 6:30pm,**  
with our brothers and sisters in Christ  
from Ona United Methodist Church.

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
Onalaska & Holmen  
Community Thanksgiving Dinner



**Onalaska Community Thanksgiving Dinner**  
**November 24, from 11–2pm**  
**at the Onalaska Armory**  
In-person dining, to-go & delivery

*Donations & volunteers needed: [www.octd.org](http://www.octd.org)*

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

<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>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>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints' Day</p> <p>12p All Saints' Worship </p>	<p>2</p> <p>10a Springbrook Worship </p> <p>6:15p Confirmation Class - FS</p> <p>7p Choir Practice for All Saints - SN</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30a Sunshine Team</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7p AA - FH</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Daylight Savings Ends Tonight! </p> <p>4:45p OWLs Fly to UWL for Last Train to Nibroc</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Preschool FBB: Praying Together, lifted u...</p> <p>7:30a Choir Warm Up - CR</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p> <p>7p Bible Matters - NX</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Election Day of Prayer</p> <p>1p Dorcas Circle - UR</p> <p>6:15p Election Day of Prayer Service</p> <p>7p Stephen Ministry - FS</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10a Ona Terrace Worship </p> <p>12p Finance Team Mtg</p> <p>6:15p Confirmation Class - FS</p> <p>7p Operation Christmas Child: Shoebox Packing</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30a Drawing from the Well - NX</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Deadline for Dec/Jan Mini Newsletter</p> <p>5:15p Personnel Team Mtg</p> <p>7p Vision &amp; Leadership Team Mtg</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10a Ona Terrace Worship </p> <p>12p OWLs Potluck - NX</p> <p>6:15p Confirmation Class - FS</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:45p Parent's Night Out - FH</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:15a Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments - FH</p>	<p>21</p> <p>1p Elizabeth Circle</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7p Stephen Ministry - FS</p>	<p>23</p> <p>No Confirmation Small Grps</p> <p>6:30p Ecumenical Worship - First Lutheran </p>	<p>24</p> <p>Thanksgiving (office closed) </p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Gr 1 FBB: 10 Commandments, lifted up i...</p> <p>9:15a Advent Around the Table - FH</p> <p>9:15a Sunday School Christmas Program Practice - SN</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10a Assemble Mini-Newsletter - NX</p> <p>7p AA - FS</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:15p Confirmation Class - FS</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:30a Sunshine Team</p> <p>7p Women of the House</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7p AA - FH</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10a Baptismal Preparation - NX</p> <p>2p Road to Bethlehem - Sugar Creek</p>

weekly events for

# NOVEMBER

at First Lutheran

## SUNDAYS

8:00am Worship

9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes - Fireside Rm

9:15am Parent Share - Upper Rm

9:15am Sunday School

10:30am Worship

## TUESDAYS

9:00am Quilters - Fireside Rm

1:30pm Staff Meeting

3:30pm Knitters & Crocheters - Upper Rm

5:00pm Bells Practice - Choir Rm

## WEDNESDAYS

6:00am Courageous Men - Fireside Rm

6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Narthex

5:30pm Confirmation Dinner

6:15pm Worship

7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Confirmation Small Groups



## 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. 30.**

- Noah Chenault
- Kennedy Garbers
- Kasey Gibbs
- Emma Harman
- Mason Harman
- Emma Hayes
- Noah Hougom
- Olivia Konrardy-Buchal
- Alexa Larson
- Danielle Lass
- Eliana Mascotti
- Maverick Mason
- Sawyer Meyer
- Evan Nelson
- Lilly Netwal
- Hanna O'Rourke
- Danika Rebhahn
- McKenzie Runde
- Natalie Tevis
- Leah Thies
- Tatum Walters
- Dylan Whiteaker

## 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)*

# facebook

Share your Faith Alive moments!  
Tag them #faithalive365  
and like us at [facebook.com/1stlu](http://facebook.com/1stlu)

## 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

### SUPPORT STAFF

Tamara Schonsberg ..... Office Assistant ..... 608.783.2236 ..... office@firstlu.org  
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Jerry Yushta ..... Assistant Custodian  
Rob Nelson ..... Assistant Custodian

### MUSIC STAFF

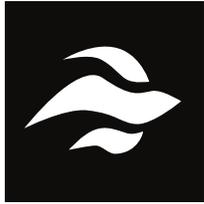
Gabriel Hicks ..... Organist ..... gabe@firstlu.org  
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Todd Saner ..... Senior Choir Director & Contemporary Music Coordinator ..... todd@firstlu.org

### PRESCHOOL STAFF

Melissa Rolbiecki ..... Preschool Director ..... 608.779.4504 ..... preschool@firstlu.org  
Amy Zimmer ..... 4K Teacher ..... amy@firstlu.org  
Marci Leppert ..... Preschool Assistant Teacher  
Angie Strittmater ..... Preschool Assistant Teacher

### VISION & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Larry Schreiner ..... President  
Donna Bossman ..... Secretary  
Amanda Zieba  
Derrick Knight  
Jason Witt  
Michelle Renkas  
Phyllis Bey



**FIRST  
LUTHERAN**

410 Main Street  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
608.783.2236  
[www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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



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

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# GOOD NEWS

NOVEMBER 2022



*All Saints Worship*

Tuesday, Nov. 1  
Noon

★ Election Day  
of Prayer ★

Tuesday, Nov. 8  
6:15pm

ALSO INSIDE

**MEAL TRAIN**

**OPERATION  
CHRISTMAS CHILD**

**CHRISTMAS  
EVENTS INSERT**

*Ecumenical  
Thanksgiving Eve  
Worship*

Wednesday, Nov. 23  
6:30pm

#faithalive365