

READINGS

For Sunday, Dec. 9
Luke 3:1-6, The Proclamation of John the Baptist
Pew Bible: 834 Spark Bible: 1132

For Wednesday, Dec. 12
Mark 8:27-33, Jesus the Messiah
Pew Bible: 820 Spark Bible: 1110

PRAYERS & CARE

Please contact the office if you have any prayers to be lifted up: office@firstlu.org or 608.783.2236

NURSERY AVAILABLE

Members and visitors: our nursery is available for children newborn through age 4. The nursery is staffed Sunday mornings during and between services, and on Wednesday evenings during service and programming. **Please bring your diaper bag.** It will also be staffed during some church events and will be advertised as such when available. We hope you take advantage of our services while here at First.

Wednesday attendant: Deb Koenig

HOSPITAL REMINDERS

For Gundersen: be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask and they will then release your name to us when we call.
For Mayo/Franciscan Healthcare: it is important that you or a family member contact us directly at the church office: 608.783.2236. Mayo no longer gives out information regarding who is hospitalized.

Please make every effort to keep food and beverages in the narthex. Thanks!

SERVING:
Pastor Jason Stanton, Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz Organist: Gabe Hicks; Bread Baker: Peggy Daleki

SUNDAY, DEC. 9, 8:00AM
Communion Servers: Kurt Breiling, Bridget Crave; Reader: Katie Smith-Ohm; Ushers: Breiling family; Projection Leader: Randy Nedrelo

SUNDAY, DEC. 9, 10:30AM
Communion Servers: Jenn Wiesjahn, Paula Skoy; Reader: Judy Wachter; Projection Leader: Doug Shupe

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12, 6:15PM
Members of a confirmation small group will serve as worship assistants

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
410 Main St, Onalaska WI 54650
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608.783.2236 • Fax: 608.783.3741
Office hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

Senior Pastor: Jason Stanton
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Associate Pastor: Karyn Bodenschatz
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Director of Hospitality:
Kathryn Pedretti, kathryn@firstlu.org

Nursery Coordinator:
Cassie Carrell, nursery@firstlu.org

Young Youth Coordinator & Sunday School Superintendent:
Beth Miller, beth@firstlu.org

Director of Small Group Ministry:
Bridget Crave, bridget@firstlu.org

Director of Communications & Marketing:
Andrew Stutesman, andy@firstlu.org

Head Custodian: Mike Peper, mike@firstlu.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUN., DEC. 9 & WED., DEC. 12

WELCOME GUESTS!
The 1,800 baptized members of First Lutheran hold hospitality to visitors among our greatest priorities. We understand that visiting a church can feel overwhelming. **Please know that ALL are welcome to worship, commune and participate in all church activities, programs and events.**

We hope you can make time to stop at the Welcome Center in the front entry where we have a gift for you. It's also a great place to ask questions, gather information and share ways that we may keep in touch with you. **We're glad you're here!**

WELCOME CENTER HOSTS
Lee & Yvonne Cade, Brian & Mary Narveson

CONNECTION CARDS
Connection Cards help the staff keep in touch with the needs of members and visitors alike. **Please fill out a Connection Card each week,** complete with prayer concerns and anything else you'd like the Pastors to know. Hand it to an usher on your way forward for communion, or place it in the offering plate. Thanks!

HOSPITALITY ACTION TEAMS
Coffee Servers: Deb Dinger, Diane Engebrecht, Marie Tutlewski; Treat Providers: Jody Newgaard, Bridget Crave, Erica Gallant, Phyllis Bey

frolic

This group is for parents/guardians and their children ages birth to 3 years old, **and meets the second Sunday, at 9:15am in room 102.** We sing, dance, play, and pray together to learn ways to raise our little Christians in the home. We welcome newcomers all the time.

FAITH ALIVE! U BEING CHRISTIAN AMIDST “OTHERS”

A Faith Alive! U course presented by Pastor Libby Howe on **Sunday, Dec. 9, 6pm.** How could understanding 'others' — from Christians of other denominations to believers of other religions to non-believers — help us clarify our own Christian identity and purpose? Assistant to the Bishop for the La Crosse Area Synod — and one of our own members! — Pastor Libby Howe will talk about whether we can learn about ourselves by learning about 'others' without trying to force them into becoming more like us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Please take time before worship and go to the narthex to write down any prayers you want to lift up, so we can be certain to include them in worship today!

*Baptismal blessings are extended to
Caden Raymond DeNault,
son of Jason & Amanda DeNault*



SHE'S BACK!
This Sunday we extend a big "Hello!" as we welcome back Pastor Karyn from her sabbatical! We missed you!

Sunday School

- Sunday, Dec. 9**
- 9:15am Frolic! - Rm 102
 - 9:15am Sunday School
 - Preschool & 4K, opening in 4K Rm
 - Gr K-5, opening in the Sanctuary

Sunday, Dec. 16

- 9:30am Sun. School Christmas Program, in the Sanctuary

New registrations welcome any time of the year. Contact Sunday School superintendent Beth Miller at sundayschool@firstlu.org or stop in the Sunday School office in room 206.

CONFIRMATION

- Sunday, December 9**
- 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirmation Classes
 - 6:00pm Faith Alive! U: Being Christian Amidst "Others" (elective op.)
- Wednesday, December 12**
- 7:00pm Confirmation Parent Meeting - Fellowship Hall
 - 7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Please return gifts **THIS Sunday, Dec. 9.** If you purchase gift cards, please wrap them in a box. *Questions? Contact the church office: office@firstlu.org / 608.783.2236.*

GOOD GIFTS ORNAMENTS

Choose a Good Gifts ornament from the giving tree in the narthex, take it home, and go online to ELCA.org/GoodGifts to make your donation. Write on the back of the ornament and give as gift.

COFFEE WITH PASTOR KARYN

Have we mentioned Pastor Karyn's back?!!! Coffee with Pastor Karyn is open to all and meets at **6:30am each Wednesday at Panera.** See you there!

Knitters

Prayer shawl knitters meet **every Wed, at 5:30pm** in the narthex. Open to all!

YOUNG YOUTH COOKIE DECORATING

Meet at the church on **Saturday, Dec. 15, at 4pm** in the fellowship hall to decorate Christmas cookies. The cookies will be handed out as gifts to the residents that we visit when the church goes caroling on Dec. 16 at 5pm. Parents are more than welcome, even encouraged, to attend the cookie decorating event! Young Youth is a group for children in grades K-2 and grades 3-5. For information, contact Beth Miller: beth@firstlu.org.

BLESSING GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

We invite anyone who works for government, at any level, to join us on **Sunday, Dec. 16,** for worship and a special blessing for all the work you do on behalf of our country.

Sunday School Christmas Program

It is a wonderful time of year and a great way for our kids to spread their Christmas joy! New date and time this year: **Sunday, Dec. 16, between services from 9:30-10am.**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 16, 4-8pm.

Hop on a bus and take a ride around Onalaska to visit and carol to those who need extra Christmas cheer! RSVP at 1stlu.org/caroling.

Blue Christmas

Friday, Dec. 21, 6:15pm. Please join us at First Lutheran for an hour of worship, including music, prayers, candlelight and reflection, on what God is up to amidst our blue feelings around Christmas. Before worship, starting at 5:30pm, there will be a time for a light meal and conversation.

Christmas at First

Christmas Eve worship times: 2pm, 4pm, 6pm and 11pm. All will be candlelight and all will be with Holy Communion. **Christmas Day worship time:** 10am, with Holy Communion.

Share your Faith Alive! experience and tag your posts on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook with #faithalive365.

THIS WEEK: DEC. 9-16

SUN 9	CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE 8:00am Worship 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirm Clses - Rm 207 & FS 9:15am Advent in Narnia Small Grp - MR 9:15am Parent Share - UR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR 9:15am Frolic! - Rm 102 9:15am Sunday School - SN 10:30am Worship 5:30pm Middle & High School Youth Grps - FH 6:00pm Faith Alive! U: Being Christian Amidst "Others" - SN 6:30pm Advent in Narnia Small Grp - UR
MON 10	7:00pm AA - FS
TUES 11	8:30am Parent Share - UR 9:00am Quilters - FS 1:00pm Dorcas Circle - House 1:15pm Staff Mtg 5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR
WED 12	6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - FS 6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera 12:00pm Finance Team Mtg 5:30pm Prayer Shawl Knitters - NX 6:00pm Advent in Narnia Small Grp - UR 6:15pm Worship 7:00pm Peer Ministry - House 7:00pm Confirmation Parent Mtg - FH 7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Grps 7:00pm Choir Practice - SN
THUR 13	10:30am Small Grp w/ Laurie Berg - House 7:00pm Women of the House Small Grp
FRI 14	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:00pm AA - FS
SAT15	4:00pm Young Youth Cookie Decorating - FH
SUN 16	8:00am Worship 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Confirm Clses - Rm 207 & FS 9:15am Advent in Narnia Small Grp - MR 9:15am Parent Share - UR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR 9:30am Sunday School Christmas Program - SN 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Caroling 5:30pm Middle & High School Youth Grps - FH 6:30pm Advent in Narnia Small Grp - UR

CALENDAR KEY:
CR = Choir Room FBB = Faith Building Block FH = Fellowship Hall
FS = Fireside Room MR = Mary Room NX = Narthex
SN = Sanctuary TR = Thomas Room UR = Upper Room

For more info, visit our website at www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org