

## READINGS

For Sunday, Dec. 16  
Luke 3:7-18, The Proclamation of John the Baptist  
*Pew Bible: 834 Spark Bible: 1132*

For Wednesday, Dec. 19  
Isaiah 42:1-9, Light to the Nations  
*Pew Bible: 584 Spark Bible: 780*

## PRAYERS & CARE

Sympathy to the family & friends of Jean Wellman,  
mother of Suzanne Alberts  
*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: Mary Nicolai  
**SUNDAY, DEC. 16, 8:00AM**  
Communion Servers: Travis Evenson, Larry Schreiner;  
Reader: Mary Every; Projection Leader: Rob Kranig  
**SUNDAY, DEC. 16, 10:30AM**  
Acolytes: Felicity Renkas; Communion Servers: Judy Johnson,  
Brandon King; Reader: Teesha Willinger  
**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19, 6:15PM**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
410 Main St, Onalaska WI 54650  
www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org • office@firstlu.org  
608.783.2236 • Fax: 608.783.3741  
Office hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

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

**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. 16 & WED., DEC. 19

**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**  
Brandon King, Meredith Hougen, Todd Lofald

**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: Shari & Marty Hegland,  
Randy & Roxann Nedrelo; Treat  
Providers: Bethany Girtler, Shirley Sacia,  
Sarah Long, Brenda Mackeben

## Sunday School Christmas Program

It is a wonderful time of year and  
a great way for our kids to spread  
their Christmas joy! Join us between  
services, **THIS Sunday, Dec. 16, at  
9:30am**, and then afterward for a  
reception and pictures in the narthex.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**  
**THIS 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! All are  
welcome, even at the last minute!

## YOUTH GROUPS CHRISTMAS PARTY!

**THIS Sunday, Dec. 16**, the youth groups  
at First Lutheran will have a combined  
middle and high school Christmas party!  
SCHEDULE: Kids can go caroling from  
4-6pm (it's a confirmation service option)  
or can be dropped off at church for youth  
group at 5:30pm. Either way, all youth  
will join the potluck feast with the whole  
church from 6-7pm. From 7-8:30pm there  
will be games, a gift exchange and more!  
Bring a \$5 gift (white elephant style). Gifts  
can be bought, homemade or baked!!  
Can't wait to see your creativity! Feel free  
to bring snacks to share!

**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!

# Sunday School

## Sunday, Dec. 16

- 9:30am Sun. School Christmas Program, in the sanctuary
- **Preschool and 4K meet at 9am in the 4K classroom:** These students will NOT be singing "Silent Night." After the program preschool & 4K students will sit in the pew with their parents.
- **K-5 meet at 9am in the choir room:** After the program K-5 students will meet their parents in the narthex.
- *Everyone is welcome after the program to a reception and pictures in the narthex!*

## Sundays, Dec. 23 & 30

- 9:15am No Sunday School; classes resume on Sunday, Jan. 6
- New registrations welcome any time of the year. Contact Sunday School superintendent Beth Miller at [sundayschool@firstlu.org](mailto:sundayschool@firstlu.org) or stop in the Sunday School office in room 206.

# CONFIRMATION

## Sunday, December 16

- No Gr 6 & 7 confirmation classes; we invite everyone to enjoy the Sunday School Christmas program!

## Wednesdays, December 19 & 26

- No Gr 8 & 9 small groups; small groups resume Wednesday, Jan. 2

## Sundays, December 23 & 30

- No Gr 6 & 7 confirmation classes; classes resume on Sunday, Jan. 6

# Christmas Flowers

If you would like to give a rose in honor or memory of loved ones for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, you may do so by filling out a flower form, available in the church office. Cost is \$5 per rose. **Deadline is THIS Sunday, Dec. 16.**



On **Wednesday, Dec. 19**, the OWLs, a group for those 55+, will have their annual Christmas potluck **at noon in the narthex**. Optional: bring a gift for the exchange; the theme this year is "My Favorite Christmas Decoration." Can be purchased or handmade; keep under \$10. Also, please bring a few Christmas goodies to share in addition to your potluck dish, and wear your favorite Christmas sweater or outfit. Questions? contact Brian Narveson at [owls@firstlu.org](mailto:owls@firstlu.org).

# NO GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN DECEMBER

A reminder to all members of our grief support group that there is no meeting in December. **The next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019.** Questions? Contact our Director of Small Group Ministry, Bridget Crave: [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org).

# 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.

# KETTLE RINGERS

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign is looking for bell ringers! They still have sites with many shifts that have not been filled. Please consider donating two hours of time for this worthy cause. Every dollar helps those in need in our community. Register online at [SALacrosse.org](http://SALacrosse.org) or call 608.782.6126.

# CALLING ALL LEARNERS: SAVE THESE 2019 DATES

The Synod School of Theology's winter term is ready to go. **Jan. 10** at Galesville: Len Liptack leads an awesome Bible Introduction. **Jan. 17-Feb. 21 on Thursday evenings** at Our Savior's, West Salem: Libby Howe on Congregational Dynamics, Jake Sorenson on Intergenerational Ministries, and Ben Morris on Gender in Ministry. *Call the synod office to register for one or all, 608.788.5000. More info: [1stlu.org/theology](http://1stlu.org/theology).*

# ENGLISH LUTHERAN

# SKI TRIP

Join members of English Lutheran for a ski trip to Winter Park, CO. The trip will be **Feb. 7-11** and costs \$550 for 4 nights of lodging and 3 days of skiing. Transportation and meals cost extra. Sign up before mid-January at [skidaddy.com/](http://skidaddy.com/) EnglishLutheran. Call Glenda Ehler for more info: 608.385.8540.

# THIS WEEK: DEC. 16-23

SUN 16	NO GR 6 & 7 BIBLE CLASSES <b>8:00am Worship</b> 9:15am Advent in Narnia Small Grp - MR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR 9:30am Sunday School Christmas Program - SN <b>10:30am Worship</b> 4:00pm Caroling 5:30pm Middle & High School Christmas Party
MON 17	1:00pm Elizabeth Circle - Marsha's Home <b>2:30pm Springbrook Worship</b> 7:00pm AA - FS
TUES 18	8:30am Parent Share - UR 1:15pm Staff Mtg 5:15pm Personnel Team Mtg 5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy 6:30pm Property Team Mtg - Mike's Office 6:30pm Vision & Leadership Team Mtg
WED 19	NO GR 8 & 9 SMALL GRPS 6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - FS 6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera <b>10:00am Ona Terrace Worship</b> 12:00pm OWLs Christmas Potluck - NX 5:30pm Prayer Shawl Knitters - NX 6:00pm Advent in Narnia Small Grp - UR <b>6:15pm Worship</b> 7:00pm Choir Practice - SN
THUR 20	10:00am Deborah's Circle - NX 10:30am Small Grp w/ Laurie Berg - House 7:00pm Women of the House Small Grp
FRI 21	<b>6:15pm Blue Christmas Worship</b> 7:00pm AA - FS
SUN 23	NO SUN SCHOOL & GR 6 & 7 BIBLE CLASSES <b>8:00am Worship</b> 9:15am Advent in Narnia Small Grp - MR 9:15am Parent Share - UR 9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee - MR <b>10:30am Worship</b> 6:30pm Advent in Narnia Small Grp - UR

<b>CALENDAR KEY:</b>		
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](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)