

READINGS

For Sunday, Dec. 17

Luke 1:5-14, 18-25, Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25,
Isaiah 43:1-7, 15-21, The Birth of Jesus Foretold
Pew Bible: 831, 783, 585
Spark Bible: 1127, 1058, 782

For Wednesday, Dec 20

Isaiah 55:1-13, Word Accomplishes God's Purpose
Pew Bible: 598 Spark Bible: 797

PRAYERS & CARE

Sympathy to the family & friends of Alice Kramer
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.

Sunday attendant: Deb Eckert
Wednesday attendant: Cassie Carrell

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.

SERVING:
Pastor Jason Stanton, Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz Organist: Gabe Hicks; Bread Baker: Mary Nicolai

SUNDAY, DEC. 17, 8:00am
Communion Servers: Rick Cornforth; Reader: Sara Nash; Ushers: Deb Carlson; Projection Leader: Rob Kranig

SUNDAY, DEC. 17, 10:30am
Communion Servers: Heather & Jim Sysimaki, Jill Hanson; Reader: Mark Koenig; Ushers: Gloria Kubiak, Ginny & Clay Pollert; Projection Leader: John Peterson

WEDNESDAY, DEC 20, 6:15pm
Reader: Terry Lee

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

Vicar: Tara Shilts, tara@firstlu.org

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

Confirmation Admin. Assistant:
Cindy Beach, cindy@firstlu.org

Youth Director: Jared Oelke, jared@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 17 & WED., DEC 20

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
Meredith Hougen, Teesha Willinger

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: Gloria Kubiak, Todd Lofald, Eileen Upton; Treat Providers: Bethany Girtler, Beth Houskamp, Sharon Kjos, Jill Hanson



21 BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP: 6:15pm
worship, with a light meal & conversation at 5:30pm.

24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TIMES: 2:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:00pm and 11:00pm. All will be candlelight and all will be with Holy Communion. No Sunday School nor Confirmation classes.

25 CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP TIME: 10am, with Holy Communion.

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. 17**
- 9:15am Sunday School
 - 3- & 4-yr-olds, parent drop-off in 4K Rm
 - Gr K-5, parent drop-off in Choir Rm

Sunday, Dec. 24 & 31

- No Sunday School Classes; classes resume on Sunday, January 7

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 17**
- 9:15am 10 Commandments
 - 9:15am Gr 6 & 7 Bible Classes
- Wednesday, December 20**
- 5:00pm Lord's Prayer
 - 7:00pm Confirmation Parent Meeting
 - 7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

THIS Sunday, Dec. 17, 5-8pm. Hop on a bus and take a ride around Onalaska to visit and carol to those who need extra Christmas cheer! Feel free to join us, even at the last minute!



On **Wednesday, Dec. 20**, the OWLs, a group for those 55+, will have their annual Christmas potluck **at noon in the narthex**. This event is known for its fabulous food, great fellowship, fun games, Christmas goodies,

and a wonderful gift exchange; the latter is optional, and the theme is "My Favorite Christmas Ornament." Keep the value under \$10. Bring a few Christmas goodies to share in addition your potluck dish. Questions? Contact Brian Narveson at owls@firstlu.org.

FAITH ALIVE CREATIVE CIRCLE

Monday, Dec. 18, 6-9pm. Meeting the third Monday of each month in Fellowship Hall, the Faith Alive Creative Circle is a gathering of people working out their creative muscles. All are welcome. Bring whatever project you are working on and enjoy fellowship while doing it. Join us!

FOOD BASKET SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR ROTARY LIGHTS

Volunteers are needed to collect food for the Onalaska Food Basket at this year's Rotary Lights in Riverside Park in La Crosse. Volunteers collect food from drivers as vehicles enter the park. Volunteers are needed for these shifts on these dates: **5-7:30pm or 7:30-10pm on Dec. 17 and 30.** To volunteer as an individual or group, go to 1stlu.org/rotary.

SYNOD SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Grow in faith, develop your spirituality, deepen your discipleship, discern your baptismal vocation, and learn more about the Bible, theology and the church. Courses include: Bible, Theology, Church History, Ministry Skills and Spiritual Development. **The first session begins Jan. 4, 2018.** Talk to our pastors if you're interested, and find more info at 1stlu.org/theology.

CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS GLOVES, HATS

With winter (finally) arriving, we have many guests in need of warm hats and gloves — we are especially short on more masculine styles. Please consider donating cold weather gear ASAP. Many of our guests walk to and from school, which means a lot of time out in the cold. Gently used winter coats are also welcome! Thank you for warming heads, hands and hearts with your generosity!

YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR PHOTOS

Members who had their photos taken for the new church directory and who are getting just the free 8x10 can pick up that photo in the church office.

WELCOME BASKETS

Welcome baskets are a way to welcome a new neighbor into your neighborhood. The baskets are a gift bag tied with a bow, filled with some goodies from church and from our community. They are available to sign out at the Resource Center across from the church office.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY!

A warm thank you! Why? To thank everyone for being Christ's hands and feet! **Sunday, Jan. 28, 11:45–1:30pm in Fellowship Hall.** RSVP by Jan. 24 at the Welcome Center or call the church at 608.783.2236.

THIS WEEK: DEC. 17–24

- MON 18** 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle - Carmon Deeth's home
6:00pm Faith Alive Creative Circle - FH
7:00pm AA - FS
- TUES 19** 8:30am ParentShare - UR
9:00am Naomi's Circle
1:15pm Staff Mtg
5:15pm Personnel Team Mtg
5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy
6:30pm Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR
6:30pm Property Mngmt Team - Mike's Office
6:30pm Vision & Leadership Team Mtg
- WED 20** 6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - FS
6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera
12:00pm OWLs Potluck - NX
5:00pm Lord's Prayer Confirm Cls - FS
6:15pm Worship
6:30pm Peer Ministry - MR
7:00pm Confirmation Parent Mtg - FH
7:00pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Grps
7:00pm Choir Practice - SN
- THUR 21** 10:00am Deborah's Circle - NX
5:30pm Blue Christmas Meal - FH
6:15pm Blue Christmas Worship
7:00pm Women of the House Small Grp - House
- FRI 22** 7:00pm AA - FS
- SUN 24** CHRISTMAS EVE
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
NO CONFIRMATION CLASSES
2:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
6:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
11:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
- MON 25** CHRISTMAS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
10:00am Christmas Worship
7:00pm AA - FS
- TUES 26** 1:15am Staff Mtg
5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy
- WED 27** NO GR 8 & 9 CONFIRMATION SMALL GROUPS
6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - FS
6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn - Panera

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