



GOOD NEWS! NOVEMBER 2017

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

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STANTON



First Lutheran's capital campaign, Our Church + Our Time, launched October 15th with a kickoff event that included great food, time

to talk with friends and time to listen to our keynote speaker, John McHugh. John shared four stories about what it means to love, what it means to live with gratitude and what it means to be hospitable. We say we want to become more grateful, loving, hospitable people so John's stories were very welcome. While he spoke, our kids played in the Pertzsch gymnasium, which I heard (from my kids anyway) was great fun! "We should do that more often" was what my 10-year-old son told me. Maybe he's right.

You know what else we should do more often? An every-member visit. Most of us think the primary goal of a capital campaign is to gather money. I know some might think I am just saying this, but I truly mean it when I say that gathering money is the third most important goal of this campaign.

The real #1: connect with EVERY member of First Lutheran to hear about where they are in their faith journey. I have already heard in these first 50 visits or so about families moving, marriages that are struggling, upcoming hospital visits and all sorts of other personal concerns that have moved me to prayer and action. I LOVE knowing what to pray about when I think of you or your family. And

The #1 goal of the capital campaign: connect with EVERY member of First Lutheran to hear about where they are in their faith journey.

knowing what to pray about moves me to know what actions to take that might be helpful where help is needed.

Goal #2: Find out how First Lutheran is meeting or not meeting the spiritual needs and wants of our members. In one part of the 'visit' the visitOR presents the 80+ ministries we do at First and asks, "Are we missing anything?" Again, in just these first 50 or so visits, I have heard about how we are failing the 'sandwich' generation (sandwiched between caring for parents and caring for kids/grandkids), how we too often go too long in worship and also how difficult it can be to choose activities at church when faced with the many other options life brings us. After asking whether we are "missing anything" the visitOR asks, "How has your participation in the life of First Lutheran changed over the last few years?" This opens the door for conversation about whether you are

being pulled in closer to our fellowship or whether you find yourself falling away. As your pastor, I want to know what pulls you in or what repels you so that we can keep working toward building relationships that withstand the tests of time.

Goal #3: The church has needs and opportunities that are exciting to address, in my opinion. When we conclude this campaign, our facility will be ready to serve our mission for another 10 years. We'll have budgetary flexibility to keep the staff who are doing great work. And we'll be able to be generous to local and global outreach ministries in ways we haven't before. I think it's exciting that "Our Time" is a time when we can put First Lutheran on course to take the next step in what Faith Alive! looks like from us.

When you accept a visit from a church friend who calls you, please know it is NOT just about money. We will connect with EVERY member through the course of this campaign because we want to hear from each and every person who calls First Lutheran their church. I look forward to hearing from you!

Pastor Jason Stanton
jason@firstlu.org

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

Coulee Region Ringers European Tour July 2018 to Germany and France

Don't miss out on this
once in a lifetime opportunity to
join the La Crosse area bell choir
to tour Europe from
July 17–27, in 2018!

Email Jim for more info: jim@firstlu.org

ELCA GOOD GIFTS CATALOG

Gifts for
the person who
“has everything”
ELCA Good Gifts
elca.org/goodgifts



Gifts that grow the
church, fight hunger
and transform lives.

Water well page 8
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Mosquito net page 12

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

Your offering at work

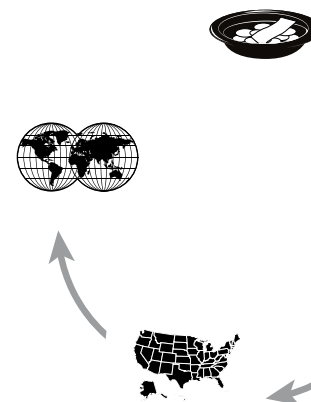
When you give to your local congregation, a percentage of that money is shared with your synod and with the ELCA churchwide organization. The portion of your offering that is shared with the wider church is called Mission Support. As members of the ELCA, we are freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor, open to the Holy Spirit's invitation to be active in the world. Through sharing your time, talents and financial resources, you are actively participating in God's work throughout the U.S. and around the world.

1 YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING

at your congregation supports the mission of the whole ELCA doing God's work in the world.

4 YOUR CHURCHWIDE ORGANIZATION

responds to local and worldwide ministry opportunities. Together we do God's work in ways that no individual, congregation or synod can do alone.



2 YOUR CONGREGATION

shares a portion of your offering – called Mission Support – with your synod and the ELCA churchwide organization.

3 YOUR SYNOD

supports congregations and rostered leaders as they work in their communities and throughout the world.

Your support of God's mission and ministry through the ELCA churchwide organization provides

- Global and ecumenical relationships
- Stewardship and mission funding
- Supporting congregations and evangelical outreach
- Governance
- Bringing forth and supporting leaders
- Stepping forward as a church serving others
- Coordination and support of ministries in the U.S. and throughout the world



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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT



The following is a financial summary through the end of September:

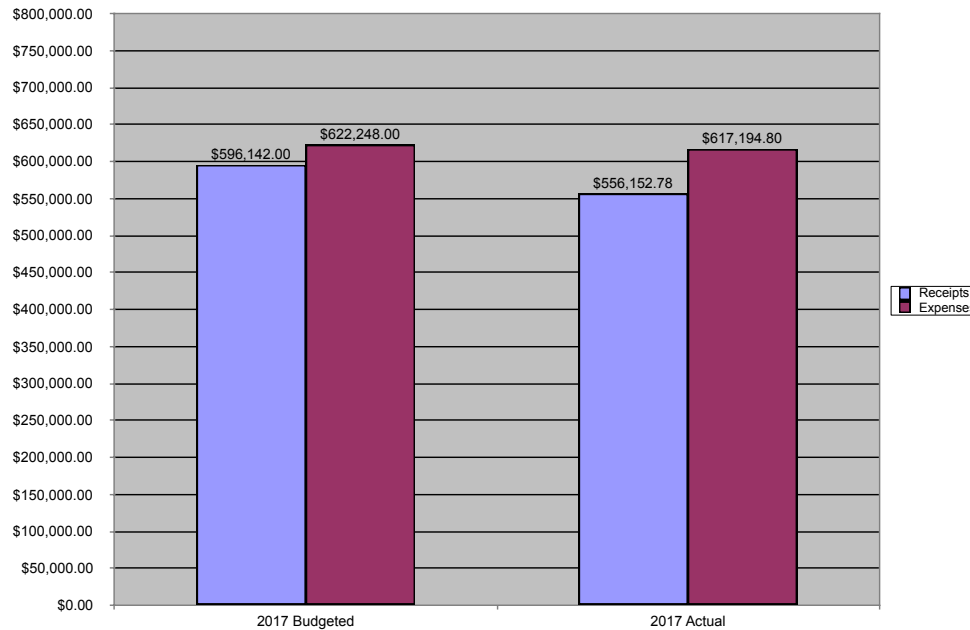
Actual
Receipts—\$556,152.78
Budgeted
Receipts—\$596,142.00
Actual
Expenses—\$617,194.80
Budgeted
Expenses—\$622,248.00

Our total receipts through the end of September fell short of the current year budgeted amount by \$39,989.22. Our total giving (envelope giving, debt reduction and other miscellaneous offerings) falls short of our current year budgeted amount by \$35,191.00 or 6.9%.

As noted above, our expenses are less than budgeted through the end of September by \$5,053.20. Our actual expenses incurred through the end of September include costs associated with our current Capital Campaign of \$42,697.89 that were not budgeted for. These costs will be recovered as pledges associated with our Capital Campaign are received in the future. Had it not been for these costs our expenses through the end of September would have been \$574,496.91 or \$47,751.09 less than budgeted. A significant portion of this is due to the timing of certain expenses.

In summary, we budgeted for a deficit of \$26,106.00 through the end of September and have realized an actual deficit of \$61,042.02. The actual deficit would have been \$18,344.13 had the costs associated with the Capital Campaign not been incurred.

Our current year deficit has been funded with cash in our operating



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our expenses are
less than budgeted
through the end
of September by
\$5,053.20.**

account but we anticipate having to access funds from our line of credit to cover certain costs associated with our Capital Campaign. And, as pledges are received, it will allow this amount to be paid off.

As always, full details of this report are available by request in the church office. Also, everyone is welcome to attend a finance committee meeting—we meet every month, on the second Wednesday at noon in the Thomas Room.

*Respectfully,
Finance Committee*

Simply Giving

Ever get to church and reach for your checkbook or envelope and realize they aren't there? Or that you just don't carry them anymore?

Automating your giving means your contributions will be received on a regular basis.

Set up a recurring contribution at 1stlu.org/simplygive and click on the "Give Now" button to get started.

Questions? Contact our webmaster at andy@firstlu.org

ABOUNDING IN THANKSGIVING



When my daughter Sarah returned from a semester in school in Scotland. I was overjoyed and so very thankful. As I patiently tried to wait for her to come through the gate, I was a bundle of nervous excited energy. I could hardly wait to hug my youngest daughter once again. She is the best hugger there is! When she finally emerged, we all gathered around her and gave her the warmest welcome with hugs and kisses and even some tears of happiness. We were all abounding in thankfulness that Sarah returned to us safe, having a wonderful semester in Scotland.

Abounding in Thanksgiving looks different depending on what we are thankful for. A newborn baby most times bring tears of joy and thankfulness or tears of relief mingled with joy and thankfulness if the pregnancy was difficult or long awaited. Having someone you love return home after a long period of time often brings joy and thankfulness for their safe return. Recovering from illness of any kind can bring thankfulness into our hearts when we receive good news about our health or the health of a loved one. The list of ways we can abound in thankfulness goes on and on.

We can always be abounding in thanksgiving even when circumstances aren't joyful but when tears of sadness do flow. This may sound impossible, but we can be because of what Christ has done for us. We are called to be abounding in thanksgiving as Colossians 2:6-7 says, "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continued to live your

lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving," Thankfully we don't have to create thanksgiving within ourselves. Christ lives in us, being rooted and built up in him, we can have that thankfulness coming from Christ. When we focus on Christ remembering all he has done for us, his life, death and resurrection, thankfulness can mingle with sadness. I know that sometimes sadness is overwhelming and thankfulness is hard to find; that is when we can trust in God, allowing him to heal our hearts so once again we can be abounding in thankfulness. Remembering how God has provided for us in the past helps us bring thanksgiving into our hearts. Knowing God is faithfulness for whatever lies ahead of us we can have hearts abounding in thanksgiving.

As we move toward the end of the year, remembering all that God has provided for us, helped us through times of trial, sadness and has rejoiced with us in times of joy we can be abounding in thankfulness. We can use our boundless thankfulness in serving others at the welcome center, as a visitor follow up caller and as a greeter of various kinds because we know the joy of the Lord within our hearts. May everyone show abounding thankfulness this month and every month of the year.

Kathryn Pedretti
Director of Servant Ministries
kathryn@firstlu.org

GO AND DO LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

SUNSHINE BOYS

The Sunshine Boys meet at First Lutheran on the **first Thursday of the month at 9am** to help with outdoor or indoor projects. Rolls and coffee are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free!

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer!
Tuesday, November 28, at 9am.
to assemble the December newsletter.
See you there!

COME FOR SUPPER

First Lutheran is assisting with Come for Supper on **Tuesday, November 28**, at Our Savior's in La Crosse. First Lutheran will help with food donations and volunteering to serve and clean up. The sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Center. Call Gloria Kubiak if you have questions, 608.498.2762.

KETTLE RINGERS

'Tis the season! Bellringers are needed through December 24. Bell ringing can be done in 2-hour increments, inside or outside. This is also a great opportunity for our confirmation kids to gain some service hours—and do it together! Those interested in volunteering their time during the holidays—or anytime—through the Salvation Army, please check out the Salvation Army's website or sign up online at Bells2ring.org!

Christmas Giving Tree

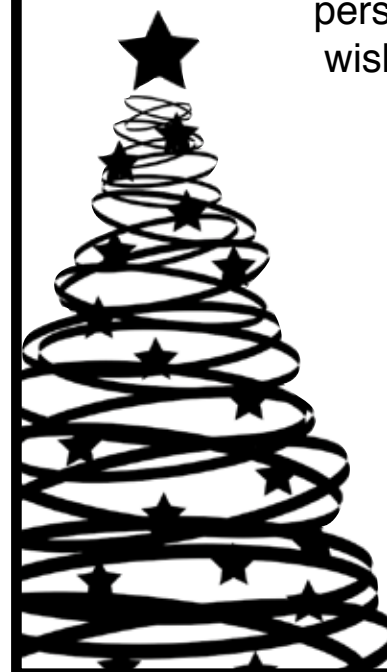
**Tags available on
November 19**

**Return gifts by
December 10**

If you purchase
gift cards, please wrap
them in a box

Call the office at
608.783.2236

if you'd like to know
what else may be on a
person's
wish list



**Bell
Ringers
Needed!**
bells2ring.org



Blood is life
DONATE

Blood Drive at First Lutheran

Tuesday, Dec 12 12:30–5:30pm

Treats will be served
Schedule your appointment
online www.bcw.edu/firstona



STEPHEN MINISTRY IN OUR CONGREGATION



Do you know what Stephen Ministers do at our church? Do you know what the Stephen Ministry program is? Have you heard about it but thought it was not for you or it might be something I would like to do. Here is your opportunity!!

In the next few months, we will make you aware of what Stephen Ministers do. We are starting a new Stephen Ministry class in January and we will be recruiting new people to the program. We always need Stephen Ministers, and here is your chance to find out what we do and how you can use the skills and gifts God gave you to be a Stephen Minister.

Well what skills do you need? If you are a good listener and a caring, loving individual, you probably have been a Stephen Minister in your life already. Listening is the key skill in this program. People want to be heard and want **to be really listened to.** Have you ever noticed you gravitate to people who really listen to you and really care how

you feel. Well that is what Stephen Ministers are trained to do. We are trained to help people, with the help of God, work through their problems, grief or whatever is troubling them.

If you are interested in what the Stephen Ministry program is, please contact Pastor Karyn or me, and we will talk to you about it.

Gloria Kubiak
Stephen Ministry Leader
608.498.2762



THANK YOU to all of our generous donors! You have filled the First Teen Clothes Closet—and we do mean FILLED! At the moment, we aren't accepting clothing donations for our closet. Instead, we encourage you to pass items along to the Salvation Army, Goodwill or other charity that can put them to use.

We are still collecting, however, for our friends at the Children's Clothes Closet in La Crosse, which can especially use larger children's sizes (10-16). Those donations may be left in our bins in the entrance at First Lutheran Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUILTS DONATED TO LWR

The quilters at First Lutheran boxed up 157 quilts in late September for shipment to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed worldwide. Some of the quilts made by the quilters during the previous year were kept here for distribution to local organizations.

FALL BACK!

Daylight saving time ends at 2am, **Sunday, Nov. 5**. Don't forget to change your clocks! (Otherwise you'll just be early to church!)

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

In place of our usual worship on **Wednesday, Nov. 22**, members of First are invited to join in a special, ecumenical worship service that **Thanksgiving Eve at 7pm, at Onalaska United Methodist, 212 4th Ave. North.**

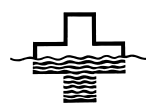
SNOW BIRDS: KEEP US UPDATED

Had enough of cold already and about to winter in 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. Thanks!

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. We'll also notify WXOW.com, news8000.com and the La Crosse Radio Group stations: 106.3, 104.9, 102.7, 100.1, and 1490 AM. 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!

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



A baptism preparation session will be Saturday, December 2, at 10am in the narthex for anyone who is considering or has scheduled a baptism.

To register or ask questions call the church office, 608.783.3326.

WE CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM

- Valarie Jae Hougom
- Brayden Kai Bosworth

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

- Ruby Thompson

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Thank you for the following memorials:

In memory of Mary Marvelas, Ruth Prodel and Ed Koss

- Organ Fund: Harvey & Yvonne Cade

In memory of DeVera Yonkovich

- Piano Fund: Friends and family of DeVera Yonkovich

In memory of DeVera & Scott Yonkovich

- Piano Fund: Irv Wittenberg

In memory of Maureen Lunney

- Piano Fund: Steve & Gert Yonkovich

In memory of John Engebrecht

- Projection booth equipment and screen: Diane Engebrecht & Marie Tutlewski

In memory of Steve Fuhrman

- Skogen Music Fund: Elizabeth MacEwen

THANK YOU

NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY CELEBRATION

To our friends at First Lutheran,

Thanks for all your help at the picnic. We are blessed to have such awesome partners!!

The Northside Neighborhood Family Celebration on August 30, was a huge success!! The neighborhood celebrated with great food, fun activities and live music. More than 275 students received back-to-school shoes and community resource groups connected with hundreds of neighbors. A great time was had by all. We sincerely thank you for the role you played in making this happen!

Deb Keller, Deb Dobrunz, Trinity Lutheran Church and La Crosse Family Collaborative

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

November 10–12

You asked for it you got it! A retreat designed just for high school aged youth! Attend as a youth group, bring a friend, or just come and join in the fun! This high energy retreat will be filled with great music, faith-building time, and lots of surprises! The November retreat is filled with fun, fall activities! Cost: \$75 (includes 5 meals) Retreat runs from 7:00 PM Friday to 1 p.m. Sunday

CRAFTER'S RETREAT

November 16–19

Calling all stampers, scrappers, quilters or whatever your craft! Get away for a weekend dedicated to working on your craft and enjoy some of our programming like campfires, devotions, worship, and more. We'll give you half of an 8 ft table, plenty of good food and a place to lay your head. Just bring yourself, bedding, toiletries and all your supplies. We'll have morning and evening devotions and a worship service on Sunday.

2017 ADULT BUS TRIPS

November 21

Fireside Dinner Theatre:
Miracle on 34th St

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH

Monday, December 4, 9am–3pm

Join others from the region for a day of excellent speakers, music, a great meal and fellowship with over 100 guests. Call to reserve your space!

2018 WISH LIST

Your gift can be tax deductible, and Sugar Creek can provide you a receipt.

- Money for climbing wall & equipment
- Canvas: new covered wagon canvas, flys for platform tents
- Vehicles in good condition: mini-vans, pick-ups, SUVs, tractor for mowing
- Money for carpet
- Horses: well-trained & gentle for the campers
- Hay for our hungry horses
- Appliances in good condition: commercial vacuums, large capacity washer/dryer, large screen TV, DVD player
- Money for new countertops in Retreat Center
- Roadwork: gravel, blacktop, and money to complete projects
- Money for cabin steel roofs



SUGAR CREEK
BIBLE CAMP

EVENTS

Sign up for most events happening at First Lutheran on our website at 1stlu.org/signup

DRAWING FROM THE WELL

Next retreat: Saturday, Nov. 11, 8:30–10am. Our November Drawing from the Well falls on Veterans Day, so after breakfast and visiting at Cafe D'vine from 8:30–10am, those interested will visit The Highground Veterans Memorial Park in Nielsville, WI. Shaz Kjos, our Veterans Ministry point person, will be our guide for this time. It's a 1.5 hour drive from Onalaska (car pooling or church van will be used). Visiting the park includes walking, so that means dress in layers and be prepared to walk. We will stop on the way back to Onalaska for a late lunch. Feel free to join us for the entire time, or just the social at Cafe D'vine.

This group is for women of First and the greater La Crosse area seeking to support one another in their spiritual growth. We gather together once a month on Saturday mornings to be with each other, enjoy a breakfast, and develop a deeper relationship with one another. Come and get to know other women of the church, or renew friendships. RSVP to bridget@firstlu.org



SKI TRIP TO WINTER PARK, CO

Feb 8–12, 2018. English Lutheran invites members of First to join them on their ski trip to Colorado. More info: 1stlu.org/skitrip

FAITH ALIVE! CREATIVE CIRCLE

It is a scientific fact that exercising our creative muscles has all sorts of health benefits. It is also a scientific fact that gathering with people has all sorts of health benefits. It seems our ancestors knew these two things together can mean only good things for individuals and communities, so we offer the "sewing" circle with a modern twist. The Faith Alive Creative Circle is a gathering of people working out their creative muscles. All are welcome to bring whatever project you are working on and enjoy fellowship while doing it. We also will have, from time to time, a shared project so that we can learn new things from each other. We meet the 3rd Monday of each month from 6–9pm in Fellowship Hall, October through May. Join us! **Next meeting: Monday, November 20.**

13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd, Ferryville, WI 54628
608.734.3113 • camp@sgrcreek.org • www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org



Art and Spirituality Retreat in Chicago

November 17-18, 2017

***There is still room. Sign up now
to claim your hotel space!***

Join Pastor Karyn to learn and practice Visio Divina, the spiritual practice of praying with images. The group will visit the Art Institute in Chicago and the Cultural Center of Chicago. You also will have some free time to shop, sight see, create your own art, or rest. Traveling by van, the group will **leave Friday morning, November 17, at 7:30am, returning to Onalaska Saturday evening around 10pm.** Some optional group meals will be planned in advance of the retreat.

Friday we will visit the ELCA church-wide offices on the outskirts of Chicago, Lutheran Center. We'll have lunch there, a tour, and learn about Visio Divina. Then we'll head downtown and visit the Cultural Center of Chicago which has amazing architecture and art exhibits. You'll have free time with

an assignment during the evening. Saturday we'll go to the Art Institute. Some time will be spent as a group at the Art Institute, with some time to wander on your own. In the afternoon you'll have a few hours for sip n' paint, shopping, sightseeing, etc. We'll depart Chicago about 5pm.

This is a great chance to learn a new spiritual practice, make new friends and refresh yourself. If you're intimidated by Chicago, this is a great chance to see the city with a group.

Total cost, including transportation to Chicago, hotel (share a double room) and Art Institute entrance fee, is \$200. Meals and optional sip n' paint are extra. The Cultural Center of Chicago is free. Contact Bridget Crave with questions: bridget@firstlu.org

Register online at 1stlu.org/artic

PARENT *share*

Coming together to pray and talk about
raising our children faithfully

**Sundays at 9:15am or
Tuesdays at 8:30am**

**Both session in the Upper Room (201)
*Contact Carla Stanton for more info***

Advent Around the Table

**Sunday, November 26, 9:15am
Fellowship Hall**

Creating advent wreaths for our homes,
chrismons for our trees, and
advent calendars to help us keep the
days of Advent. Grow in your faith as we
begin the Advent season!



PRESCHOOL

UPDATE

October was a busy month for us at the preschool. We went Trick-or-Treating to Onalaska City Hall for our Halloween Party. The children loved dressing up!

A big thank you to Beth Crammond from "b ellen photography" for taking our preschool pictures! They turned out great. Thank you!!!

Relissa



What parents are saying about First Lutheran Preschool...

We have been so blessed to have our daughter attend First Lutheran Preschool. The staff is incredibly kind and caring and I feel confident she is well prepared for Kindergarten.

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

Sunday School

At our Capital Campaign Kickoff, the youth, Jared and Beth went to Irving Pertzch Gymnasium and played games and had lots of fun with a variety of equipment. This will be something that we do again!

November has three regular Sunday School weeks along with an Advent Event that will be held **in Fellowship Hall at 9:15am, November 26.** This will be an intergenerational event to start Advent together!

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.

Faith Building Blocks

3-year Olds: Praying Together
Sunday, Nov. 5: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship

Grade 1: 10 Commandments
Sunday, Nov. 5: parents/guardians only

Sundays, Nov. 12 & 19: parents/guardians with children

Sunday, Nov. 26: Faith Building Block lifted up in worship

Throughout the year each age group will have a special "Faith Building Block" session in which parents or special adults are asked to attend class with their child on Sundays at 9:15am, sharing in conversation and growing together in faith. The session lasts for three weeks, and afterwards children will have a presence in worship in celebration of the Faith Building Block they have learned.

If you are in 2nd-5th grade then this is your club!
All are welcome!

YOUNG YOUTH

Let's get together for a fun night of games and snacks in Fellowship Hall, Sunday, Nov. 12!

Grades K-2: 6-7pm... & Grades 3-5: 7-8pm

We will discuss our plans, so come with ideas for what you would like during our young youth time!

Bring your Bibles and a flashlight! See you then!

Beth

Contact Beth Miller at beth@firstlu.org for info or with questions!

A STAR FROM AFAR AND KINDNESS ELVES!!! (GREAT GIFT IDEAS BELOW)

If you are looking for alternative ideas to support the excitement in your household during the Christmas season Beth has a few solutions...



A Star From Afar teaches the meaning of Christmas while encouraging children to go on a hunt for their star, similar to that of the wise men. Every day the Star is hidden, and the children participate in a fun hide-and-seek game to locate it. Once they have found their star, they move all three wise men to its location.

If you have questions, check out the display in the Resource Center or ask Beth Miller to order today!



Kindness Elves leave notes to shine your child's light into the world by doing random acts of kindness.

SparkHouse Book Fair Nov 27-Dec 8

Take a look at the display
and order books & gifts
for the special children
in your life!



PEER MINISTRY STARTING

Wednesday, Nov. 8

We meet most Wednesdays from 6:30–8pm (with a meal provided at 6pm for those who can make it).

Peer Ministry is a great way for our 10th graders to learn about how to deal with any situation that arises, large or small. It makes handling conflicts simple and equips them to be better listeners and be welcoming to those around them.

CONFIRMATION

Events subject to change; up-to-date info at 1stlu.org/confirmation

Teen-relevant, age-appropriate, active, modern, and theologically sound

UPCOMING CONFIRMATION EVENTS

Gr 6 & 7 Bible Classes
Sundays (9:15am)
except Nov 26

Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups
Wednesdays (7pm)
except Nov 22

Apostle's Creed
Wednesdays (5pm) Nov 1, 8

Lord's Prayer
Wednesdays (5pm) Nov 29

10 Commandments
Sundays (9:15am) Nov 5, 12, 19

The Gospel According to Harry Potter
Thursday, Nov 9 (6pm)

A.C.T.S. Prayer Model
Thursday, Nov 2 (4pm)

Church History Sunday
Nov 5 (12pm)

Being a Faithful Public Servant
Sunday, Nov 5 & 12 (6:30pm)

Keep Calm and Trust Jesus
Wednesday, Nov 8 & 15 (5pm)

Holy Week Creative Team
Mondays, Nov 13 & 20 (7pm)

Faith and Movies
Tuesday, Nov 14 (6pm)

Fall Sugar Creek H.S. Retreat
(for 9th graders)
Fri, Nov 10–Sun, Nov 12

2017 SMALL GROUPS

Weekly Groups:

Coffee with
Pastor Karyn

Courageous Men

Knitters

Parent Share (*Sun & Tues*)

Quilters

Sunday Morning
with Coffee

Monthly Groups:

Creative Circle

Drawing from the Well

Grief Support Group
(*daytime & evening*)

Frolic!

OWLS
(*Older, Wiser Lutherans*)

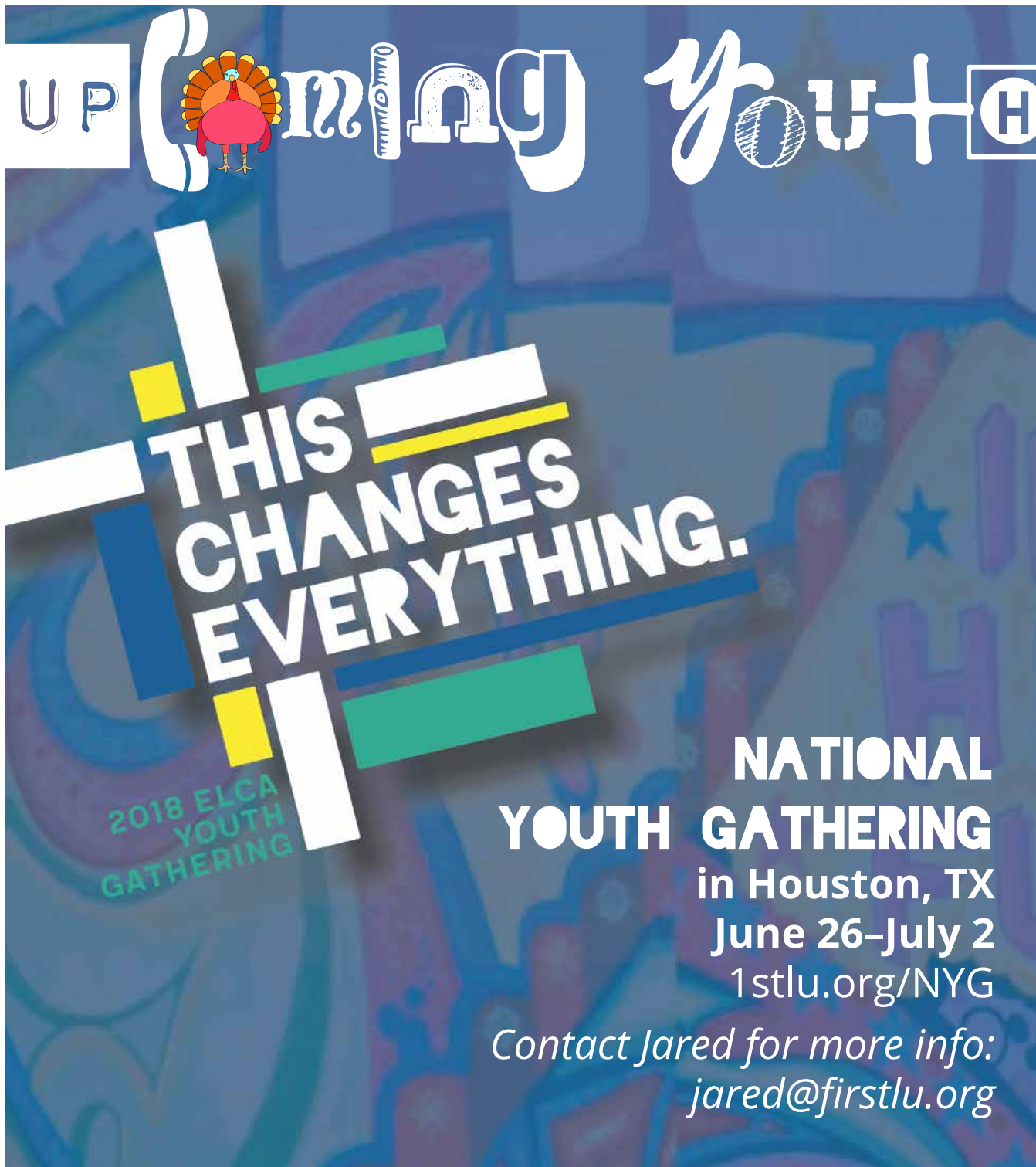
Deborah Circle

Dorcas Circle

Elizabeth Circle

Naomi Circle

Rebekah Circle



events

HIGH SCHOOL

SUGAR CREEK RETREAT

Friday, Nov. 10—Sunday, Nov. 12
6pm (Friday)—12pm (Sunday)

Spend a weekend in the beautiful valley of Sugar Creek Bible Camp.

This retreat will be full of outdoor activities, learning together, good food, campfires, night games and more! Cost is \$85, and Jared will provide transportation in the church van.

HS YOUTH GROUP!






Meets **every Sunday from 6:30-8:30pm in the Mary Room.** Come for a time to get away, refocus and enjoy fellowship with one another. It's a great start to any week!

No Youth Group on Nov. 26



Contact Jared with any questions:
jared@firstlu.org / 605.431.3421

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div>OCTOBER</div> <div> 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 </div> </div>	<div> <div>DECEMBER</div> <div> 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 </div> </div>	31	1 8:30 AM First Teen Clothes Closet Mtg 11 AM All Saints Worship  5 PM Apostle's Creed Cnfrm Cls - Rm 207 7 PM By Heart Small Group - UR	2 9 AM Sunshine Boys 11 AM By Heart Small Group 1 PM Grief Support Group - UR 4 PM A.C.T.S. Prayer Model Cnfrm Cls 6:30 PM New-member Session #3 - Blue Moon 7 PM Grief Support Group - Gloria's	3 7 PM AA - FH	4 <div>Daylight Savings Ends! </div>
5 <div>3-Yr Old FBB: Praying Together, lifted up i...</div> 9:15 AM 10 Commandments Cnfrm Cls 9:15 AM By Heart Small Group 9:15 AM Grade 1 FBB: 10 Commandm 12 PM Church History Cnfrm Cls - FH 6:30 PM Being a Faithful Public Servant 6:30 PM By Heart Small Group	6 4 PM Death & Dying Cnfrm Cls 7 PM Women of the House Sml Grp 7 PM AA - FS	7 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR	8 12 PM Finance Team Mtg 5 PM Apostle's Creed Cnfrm Cls - Rm 207 5 PM Keep Calm & Trust Jesus Cnfrm Cls 6:30 PM Peer Ministry - MR & FS 7 PM By Heart Small Group - UR 8 PM Praise Band Rehearsal - SN	9 11 AM By Heart Small Group 6 PM The Gospel According to Harry Potter - FS	10 <div>Gr 9 & High School Sugar Creek Retreat </div> 7 PM AA - FS	11 8:30 AM Drawing from the Well Group
12 <div>Gr 9 & High School Sugar Creek Retreat...</div> 9:15 AM 10 Commandments Cnfrm Cls 9:15 AM By Heart Small Group 9:15 AM Grade 1 FBB: 10 Commandm 6 PM Yng Yth Gr K-2 Flashlight Bibles 6:30 PM Being a Faithful Public Servant 7 PM Yng Yth Gr 3-5 Flashlight Bibles	13 7 PM Women of the House Sml Grp 7 PM AA - FS 7 PM Holy Week Creative Team	14 1 PM Dorcas Circle - NX 3:45 PM Worship & Music Team - NX 6 PM Faith & Movies Cnfrm Cls	15 <div>Newsletter Deadline</div> 12 PM OWLs Potluck - NX [TENTATIVE] 5 PM Keep Calm & Trust Jesus Cnfrm Cls 6:30 PM Peer Ministry - MR & FS 7 PM By Heart Small Group - UR	16 10 AM Deborah's Circle - NX 11 AM By Heart Small Group	17 <div>Art and Spirituality Retreat in Chicago</div> 7 PM AA - FS	18
19 <div>Art and Spirituality Retreat in Chicago</div> 9:15 AM 10 Commandments Cnfrm Cls 9:15 AM Grade 1 FBB: 10 Commandm	20 1 PM Elizabeth Circle 6 PM Faith Alive Creative Circle - FH 7 PM Women of the House Sml Grp 7 PM AA - FS 7 PM Holy Week Creative Team	21 9 AM Naomi's Circle 5:15 PM Personnel Team Mtg 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR 6:30 PM Vision & Leadership Team Mtg	22 7 PM Ecumenical Worship at Onalaska United Methodist 	23 <div>Thanksgiving (office closed) </div>	24 7 PM AA - FS	25
26 <div>Grade 1 FBB: 10 Commandm, lifted up i...</div> <div>No Sunday School & Confirmation</div> 9:15 AM Advent Around the Table - FH 9:15 AM Frolic! - Rm 102	27 <div>Sparkhouse Book Fair</div> <div>Butter Braid Fundraiser Begins</div> 7 PM Women of the House Sml Grp 7 PM AA - FS	28 9 AM Newsletter Assembly - NX 4 PM Come for Supper at OSLC	29 5 PM Lord's Prayer Cnfrm Cls 6:30 PM Peer Ministry - MR & FS	30 7 PM Welcome Center Quarterly Mtg	1 7 PM AA - FH	2 10 AM Baptismal Preparation - NX

weekly events for
NOVEMBER
at First Lutheran

SUNDAYS

8:00am Worship

9:15am Sunday School & Gr 6 & 7
Bible Classes, except no classes
Sun., Nov. 26

9:15am Sun Morning w/ Coffee
Small Group - NX

9:15am ParentShare - UR

10:30am Worship

6:30pm High School Youth Group

TUESDAYS

8:30am ParentShare - UR

1:15pm Staff Meeting

5:30pm Bells Practice - Sacristy

WEDNESDAYS

6:00am Courageous Men - FS

6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn -
Uptowne Cafe, Caledonia St., La Crosse

6:15pm Worship, except 7pm at
United Methodist on Nov. 22

7pm Gr 8 & 9 Small Groups,
except Wed., Nov. 22

7pm Choir Practice - SN

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*



Peer Ministry
Wed, Nov 8
6:30–8pm



Art & Spirituality
Retreat
in Chicago
Fri, Nov 17–Sat, Nov 18



High School Sugar
Creek Retreat
Fri, Nov 10–
Sun Nov 12



Creative Circle
Mon, Nov 20
6–9pm



Drawing from the Well
Sat, Nov 11
8:30am–1:30pm



Thanksgiving Eve
Worship at UMC
Wed, Nov 22
7pm



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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
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)



STAFF DIRECTORY

Jason Stanton	Senior Pastor	608.386.6431	jason@firstlu.org
Karyn Bodenschatz	Associate Pastor	608.433.6002	karyn@firstlu.org
Tara Shilts	Vicar		tara@firstlu.org

Bridget Crave	Director of Small Group Ministry	bridget@firstlu.org
Kathryn Pedretti	Director of Hospitality	kathryn@firstlu.org

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Jared Oelke	Youth Director	jared@firstlu.org

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Mark Koenig	Assistant Custodian		

MUSIC STAFF

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Todd Saner	Senior Choir Director & Contemporary Music Coordinator	todd@firstlu.org

PRESCHOOL STAFF

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Beth Miller	4K Teacher		beth@firstlu.org
Marci Leppert	Preschool Assistant Teacher		
Tracy Stoll	Preschool Assistant Teacher		

VISION & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Larry Schreiner	President
Aaron McDonald	Vice President
Jennifer Wiesjahn	Secretary
Diane Shuda	
Paula Skoy	
Shaun Gibbs	
Todd Lofald	



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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 AM
10:30 AM
Wednesday 6:15 PM



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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
edition: November 2017

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