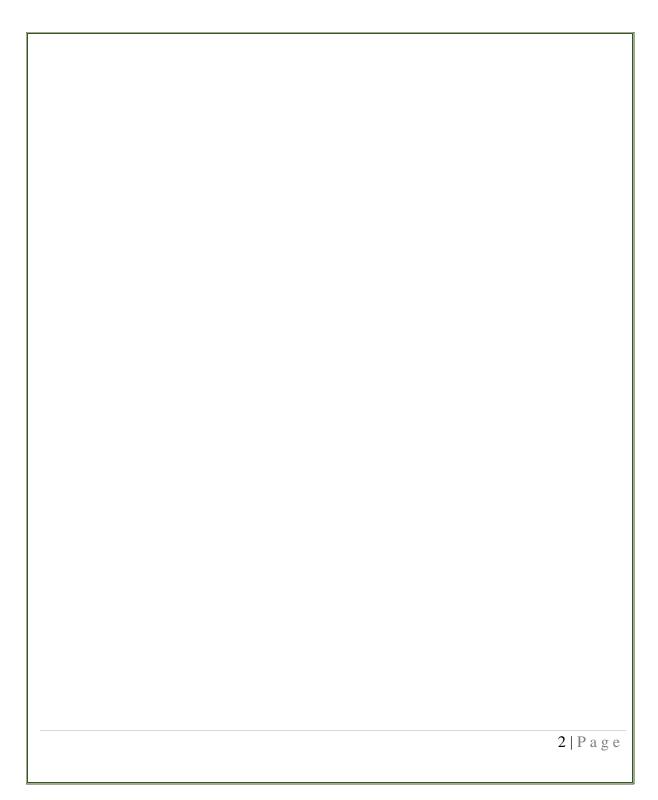
First Evangelical Lutheran Church A Member of the Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod

May First Fruits







Serving Christ by proclaiming Christ crucified in the Minnesota North District of the LCMS

Notes from the Pastor's Desk

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

(Joshua 1:9b ESV)

I hold onto the memories as tight as possible. The memories of holding my children the day they were born and the days that followed as they opened their eyes and looked into mine. One of the greatest gifts, and humbling moments of Fatherhood is the look your child gives you when they see you as a protector. From the

moment you hear their first cries to when those little hands wrap around your leg, when their face sheepishly peers around your knee, or all the times they use you as a human shield, all those moments are some of the most precious experiences. It's quite a strange reality, that some of the most tender moments of Fatherhood come when our children are experiencing fear. Think about the time they crawled into your arms after a bad dream or clung to you as you walk into the kindergarten class for the first day of school. In no way am I saying that my children's fear is a good thing. Quite the contrary. It was what they did with their fear that made it a precious memory.

As a parent, your child's fear itself can bring some of the most trying days. Days that break your heart. Like when those hands let go of you in that kindergarten classroom and their fear overwhelms them. You see their pain and their tears, and are asked to walk out the door. Or when you hear those same tears several years later when your child calls you to discuss the fear of failure, job loss, or divorce. At times, as a parent, you feel powerless in the face of their fear because you are not by their side to protect them as you once were. That helplessness of not being able to protect them is what gives way to our fear for our children as they approach life's changes. We know how challenging and unpredictable change can often be. We've learned how those transitions in life can seem so terrifying.

As we approach this time of the year so many of those life changing transitions take place. Think of the high school and college students that are staring at a threshold of change in their lives. Couples everywhere are wrapping up final arrangements as they turn the page

of the calendar getting closer to their spring or summer wedding date. Others may be looking at the birth of a child, a move across the country, new employment positions, or even launching into their retirement. In these days of transition well-wishers and greeting cards alike will offer consolation to the anxieties and fears that may be present. The trepidations of change are confronted with placations such as, "it will be okay," "it will all work out," and of course, "don't worry." These words seem hollow! How are we to be assured it "will be okay?" How are we supposed to stop worrying? What real assurances do we have? Too many times we are offered words of comfort that only reveal how nothing in this life is guaranteed.

Or, is there something that is sure, definite, and trustworthy? The words above from Scripture come to Joshua in the midst of huge life changes. He had a big move laid out in front of him, a new career, and the pressures of "graduating" from apprentice to leader. Every step that he was about to make was going to be made on new ground, overshadowed by a paralyzing sense of the unknown. He must have wondered late into the night, if he was going to experience the mutinies that Moses did. He had to fear the sword of his enemies. Were hunger, thirst and want in his future? Whatever it was that bothered him the most about the changes that lay ahead of him, it obviously was crippling. God saw that he needed assurance, and more than that... protection from despair. "Do not be frightened or dismayed..." words that come from the Creator of Heaven and Earth to His child, not as empty hollow words but supported by a promise for resolute action. God could, and did, promise Joshua what we could never promise our children. He promised to be by his side every moment, every circumstance, in every trial or victory. The LORD that brought Israel out of Egypt was at his side. So Joshua was free to be strong and courageous because God was protecting him. Notice that God does not promise that Joshua wasn't going to experience any of the sources of his fear. No, God promises to be with Joshua in the midst of his experiences.

Joshua teaches us a lot about how we live our lives. The lesson he teaches starts with the meaning of his given name. Joshua literally means "Yahweh saves". It is the root of the word for Hosanna and is translated in Greek as Jesus. Joshua teaches us why we can be confident that our Lord saves us in the midst of our trials and walks through the tears of this life right alongside of us, at times carrying us. Joshua reminds us that this relationship we have with God is not because there's something good in us, but because God, Yahweh, alone saves us poor helpless people out of His loving mercy for His children. Love seen and the experience of Him sending His son Jesus Christ to graft us into His family through His Blood on the cross, won us reconciliation with God. Because of that, we are able to be His children, looking up to Him, crying out "Abba/ Daddy/ Pappa."

Regardless of the trials, transitions, or changes we face, we have this confidence that our Lord travels with us. Come pain, diseases, disappointments, or worldly defeat, we have a Father that will never let us go. More than that, He will use those moments in our life to draw us closer to Him, like a child clinging to their father's knee knowing their human shield will preserve and protect them. This truth and reality is what we all have, and what we have all been given to share with our children. There will be times we will not be able to be there to protect, defend, or strengthen our children. But they have a Father in Heaven that can and will preserve them in-spite and in the midst of their trials. From the moment of our conception, birth, venturing into kindergarten, even into retirement and beyond, He will be by their side. They have a Father who will not even fail to protect them in their final transition from this life into death. Even then, they and we have the gift of speaking the words from the cross "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Remember, it is not fear that makes moments in this life joyfully memorable, it is what we do with that fear as children, God's children. Turn to the one who says be strong and courageous... I am with you." To Yahweh our God be all the glory.

In His Strength, (Philippians 4:13) Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy Pastor, First Evangelical Lutheran Church 735 NE 1St Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744 flcgr.org 1-218-999-4101



PASTOR'S REPORT -APRIL 2022

<u>Opening</u> Habakkuk 3:17-18 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail, and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, ¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Pastoral Acts

Worship services	18	Baptisms	3
Bible studies	9	Wedding	0
Communion visits	18	Funerals	2
Hospital visits	0		

Membership Changes:

Transferred out: 0 Transferred In: 3

New Members: 1 (Wes Tessman to Bovey)

Phone contacts (members/visitors) Contacts: 35

Events, Activities, and Special Announcements:

- Contributions to the Grand Rapids Herald continue.
- I continue to serve on the Board for NAMI Grand Rapids, as well as the Board for New Beginnings.
- My contributions for the United Way Impact Committee will be finished this month.
- I am looking into the possibility of being the Arrowhead LWML Pastoral Counselor.
- Calls to the membership continue.
- Shut-In Visitations continue with a monthly rotation. Beginning in March I have set up times to visit Majestic Pines, River Grand, and Emeralds to conduct communion services.
- Starting this month, Pastor Zeige has volunteered to sharing in the shut-in visitation ministry of.
- Special services for the month have been Lenten and Midweek Lenten Services. All of these services have been well attended and received.
- Holy week beginning next week will be in the form of the Tridium, beginning with Maundy Thursday at 6:30pm, Good Friday at 6:30pm, and Easter Sunrise at 8am, Breakfast at 9am, and Easter service at 10:30am.
- I plan to take the week following Easter off. By the grace of God and this board.
- The staff meetings continue. The staff that has been using Church 360 has been undergoing scheduled trainings.
- Confirmation Class continues. Confirmation Sunday will be held on 5/22/22. There are 5 being confirmed.
- Other Ministries that will resume AT THE END OF APRIL: Foundations of Faith and Grand Mondays. Grand Mondays will resume with a new book that will guide discussion.
- Sunday morning's Bible Study continues on the book of Romans and the Wednesday morning Bible Study continues on the book of Galatians. Each Bible study continues to be well attended.
- With discussion about the new member reception on 6/12 the list of new members and prospects is provided on the back of this report.
- Jess and I have been in discussions about the education program for next fall.
- Jess and I have been meeting with various volunteers and community leaders about the possibility of running a Ruby's Pantry at First Lutheran.
- I continue to meet with the First Lutheran Early Education Team (FLEET) to discuss possible outreach and ministry objectives.



LIBRARY CORNER FOR MAY 2022

Greetings gentle First readers! The sun is shining today and the snow continues to melt. By the time you read this, we know that spring will have arrived just as it does every year...We've purchased the following books with funds received from our LWML for books in memory of our deceased members last year: A DISTANT SHORE by Karen Kingsbury, TRULY, MADLY, DEEPLY also by Karen Kingsbury, A HEART FOR HOME by Lauraine Snelling, THE

MOONLIGHT SCHOOL by Suzanne Woods Fisher, and <u>THE STRANGER IN THE LIFEBOAT</u> by Mitch Albom. – *Your library volunteers – Janie Carlson, Darlene Baltus and Shela Cline.*

<u>COTTAGE BY THE SEA</u> by Robin Jones Gunn, 813.54 Gun. Wow, this book will stay in my mind for some time. A daughter's heartbreak with a father, a son's estrangement from his family and a beautiful ending all mixed with Iris lyrics. Gunn has pulled me through so many emotions. This book was written more on Gunn's experience than storytelling. Definitely a page turner. – *Reviewed by Darlene Baltus*.

HIDDEN AMONG THE STARS by Melanie Dobson, 813.6 Dob. Taken from inside the front cover: "...is a glorious treasure hunt, uniting past and present with each delightful revelation. Dobson celebrates faith and the strength of human spirit in true-to-life settings, high-stakes decisions, and heart-gripping characters. It's a must-read historical fiction that left me pondering well-crafted twists for days." – Mesu Andrews, award-winning author of ISAIAH'S DAUGHTER.

JERUSALEM ASSASSIN, THE: A Marcus Ryker Series Political and Military Action Thriller (Book 3) by Joel Rosenberg, 813.6 Ros. An international political thriller that will keep you turning the page through the final chapter. Marcus Ryker is a CIA operative whose team is responsible for protecting the U.S. President, the Saudi Arabian Monarch, Prime Minister of Israel, and Palestinian Grand Mufti from terrorists dead set on preventing a peace agreement between these four principals. A novel that lives up to all expectations fans of Rosenberg have come to expect. — *Reviewed by C. Hultman* (Note: We also have **THE KREMLIN CONSPIRACY**, book 1, in our church library. **Do readers want us to get book 2: THE PERSIAN GAMBLE? Let us know!)**

READER'S DIGEST THE BIBLE THROUGH THE AGES 220.9 Bib. This is a great book for the pictures and charts, and maps of the places mentioned in the Bible. I was interested because it breaks the construction of the Bible down to the Oral Tradition, the Written Word, Words of a New Faith, Copying the Word and the Printed Word (see back of book), but it was so much more. Truly appreciated having it in our library. – *Reviewed by Darlene Baltus*.

<u>UNDER THE BAYOU MOON</u> by Valerie Fraser Luesse, 813.6 Lue. Taken from inside the front cover: "With atmosphere dripping from every page like Spanish moss on a cypress tree, Valerie Fraser Luesse brings the Louisiana bayou to vivid life in this story of one woman stepping out in faith to pursue her purpose. This memorable tale of love – love for self, love for others, and the love for the land – will expand in your heart just as the ripples from a boat's passage touch every secret corner of the bayou." – Erin Bartels, author of **THE WORDS BETWEEN US** (which we have in our church library).

WATER'S EDGE by Robert Whitlow, 813.54 Whi. Taken from the back cover: "Sometimes small towns hold the biggest secrets. Ambitious young attorney Tom Crane is about to become a partner in a high-profile Atlanta law firm. But first he must clear one final matter from his docket – the closing of his deceased father's law practice in his hometown of Bethel, Georgia. Killed in a mysterious boating accident, John Crane didn't appear to leave his son anything except the hassle of wrapping up loose ends...But instead of celebrating his promotion, Tom finds himself packing up his office, having suddenly been 'consolidated.' To add insult to injury, the same night his girlfriend breaks up with him...by letter."

<u>WAY IT SHOULD BE, THE</u> by Christina Suzann Nelson, 813.6 Nel. Taken from the back cover: The author ... "doesn't shy away from the horrors of addiction nor the heartache of the foster system and family brokenness. But in the midst of the hurt, she offers pictures of grace, glimpses of beauty, and the hope of redemption." – *Lauren Denton, USA Today bestselling author*.



Board of Human Care will be sponsoring a Bake Sale on Sunday, May 15th. We would appreciate donations of baked goods for this fund raiser. The proceeds will be divided between New Beginnings and Grace House. You can bring your "goodies" into church on Sunday morning for the sale. Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Hohenstein.

MAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

May 1 Mite Sunday: Cinnamon Roll Sunday

8:00 Traditional Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study/Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

12:00 Youth Education Ministry Meeting after Second Service

Youth May Baskets and deliver to Shut-ins



Communion/ Dimes For Missions

8:00 a.m. Traditional Service

9:30a.m. Adult Bible Study/Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

May 15: Youth Sunday

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

9:30am Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

Vacation Bible School Recruitment

6:30pm-8:30pm H.S. Youth Group

May 22 Communion/ Food Shelf

8:00 a.m. Traditional Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study/Last Day of Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service/ Confirmation

May 29

8:00 Traditional Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service











MAY 2022

9:00AM QUILTERS MEET EVERY TUESDAY

BELVA'S WOODCARVING CLASS EVERY THURSDAY (9:30AM-12:30PM) (6:00PM-9:00PM)

MAY 3: 5PM: BOARD MEETINGS (Times Determined By The Boards)

9:00: ADULT BIBLE STUDY EVERY WEDNESDAY

6:30: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT FOREST LAKE EVERY WEDNESDAY

MAY 6: 11:00 DAN MATTFIELD'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

MAY 7: 2:00P-4:00P NORMA CHALBERG'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY @ FIRST LUTHERAN.

MAY 9: 6:30PM MEN'S CLUB MEETING

MAY 9-11 MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT CONVENTION

MAY 10: 5:30PM COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 12-15 ABANDON CABIN ESCAPE ROOM

MAY 15 BAKE SALE

MAY 15: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE AND VBC RECRUITMENT

MAY 19: 6:30-9:00 PM WOMEN'S NIGHT AT FIRST LUTHERAN. ALL WOMEN INVITED

MAY 22: LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

MAY 23: 10:00-11:30 SUDANESE LUTHERAN BISHOP MEET AND GREET

MAY 23: FAMILY CAMP REGISTRATION DUE

MAY 25: VOLUNTEER HURRAH KICK OFF VBC

MAY 26: 8:00AM-2:00PM AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

MAY 30: MEMORIAL DAY: OFFICE CLOSED

3:30PM NO GRAND MONDAY



April 2022 This past month of March 2022 we have been able to come along-side 38 different individuals and their families, 9 of which were new to our ministry. We were able to provide 430 services, some of which included 303 Earn While You Learn through Bright Course classes, 4 ultrasounds and 36 boutique visits. Thank you so much for making this



work possible through your generous support!

We held our annual Church Representative and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in March which was a lovely snowy evening. We have spoken at several churches already this year. Be watching for us at other local events (like the Children's Fair and Wild Rice Festival)! The 2022 5K Your Way registration opens April 15, 2022, and we have a Spring Flower Fundraiser going on through May 15, 2022.

Please see our website or call the office if you are interested in participating in either of these fundraisers, www.newbeginningspregnancy.com

or (218)-326-0404/ (218)-246-2010. Thank you again for your support! We can follow our call in this ministry, to

empower people and promote life, because of your generosity!

Please remember to use Amazon Smile when you shop online! Thank you so much!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0579091

"You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence."

Acts 2:28 NLT

Amanda Jo Grovenburg and Trudy Hasbargen Grand Rapids - 218-326-0404 – Deer River - 218-246-2010 www.newbebinningspregnancy.

Lutheran Island Camp (Summer Employment)

Hey there! We have a great summer planned for 2022! We can't wait for the Island to be full of campers laughing, playing, and learning more about Jesus. Our mission is the same as always-to nourish the whole person for joyful, Christ-centered life and service!

Unfortunately, staffing has been tough, and we are currently five days away from our deadline to decide if we will need to limit the number of kids who can come to camp each week due to a low number of applicants. Each summer we hire 20-25 college-aged individuals to fill leadership, cabin counseling, kitchen, maintenance, and wrangling positions. We currently have eight. This is where you come in!

Encourage any college-aged people in your life to <u>apply!</u> Remember, there is no "right" personality for the camp environment. Just like the Body of Christ needs all kinds, so does our camp staff! When you encourage a young adult to work at camp you are encouraging them to step out of their comfort zone and learn to be a strong, Christian leader. Let them know the benefits of working at camp! To name a few:

- Experience: Working at camp looks great on resumes! It shows future
 employers that the candidate worked in a fast pace, intense environment and
 succeeded. It implies that the candidate can be adaptable and has good problemsolving skills. A summer at camp can also double as an internship opportunity!
- Community: When people serve on summer staff, they get the opportunity to be a part of a community bigger than themselves. Lifelong friendships are made as a result of working on summer staff. The community people experience nurtures each individual's faith and brings them closer to Jesus.
- Faith building: There's no better way to learn something than to teach it yourself! All summer staff have the opportunity to teach or preach the Word of God to campers. Countless numbers of summer staff have had their faith lives transformed as they work to transform the faith lives of the campers. As part of the camp staff, individuals get to directly live out their Christian calling to "make disciples of all nations"!

Working at camp as a college student encourages young people to fulfill their Christian calling, gain great experience for their future, and be a part of an incredible community of their peers. We ask that you reach out to the young adults that you know and let them know about this invaluable and transformative experience! God is good and we trust Him to take care of the mission of Lutheran Island Camp.

Julia Johnson Program Coordinator licprogram@islandcamp.org (218) 583-2905



Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation

Vacation Bible Camp will be held out at Gunn Park on August 10th this year. Last year was so much fun being outside and having VBC for one day. We had over 70 children attend last year, and we are hoping just as many come this year! We won't be able to hold Vacation Bible Camp without our wonderful volunteers!

This year's theme is Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation. We will look into four Bible stories where we will have a better understanding of the grand story of salvation. The four lessons we will focus on are 1. God's plan for Abraham. 2. David and Goliath: Slaying the Giant. 3. Daniel in the Lion's Den: Delivered from the Lions. 4. Jesus Conquers Death.

On May 15th we will have our VBC kickoff in between the services. If you are available on August 10th and would like to be a part of an important ministry outreach, please stop by the table to see where your talents will be best utilized. We will run it similar as last year. The different stations we have are storytelling, music, craft, snack, game, fishing, and science. We will also need people for registration, make lunches, help setup, and serve at the picnic, guides and jr. guides.

On May 25th at 6:30 will be our first volunteer overview session. We will go over what is all involved in your station so you can plan and prepare for August 10th. This will give you plenty of time to be prepared.

The final training will be August 3rd at 6:30 at Gunn Park.

We won't be able to do this without your help! Please pray for Vacation Bible Camp and the many volunteers needed to make it run smoothly.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY is May 22nd at the 10:30 service. A reception with cupcakes, coffee and juice will take place from 9:15-10:15 in the fellowship hall. Please stop by and congratulate the confirmands.

GARAGE SALE will be July 29th and 30th. Donations will be accepted starting July 25th. Since we do not have a lot of room to store items, we would prefer that you hang onto them until July 25th. If you need to get rid of your items ahead of time, please contact Brad Bensen or myself for storage space.

YOUTH GROUP Every Wednesday in May except the 25th from 6:30-8:00. High School youth group will take place after the escape room on May 15th.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL teachers needed. Lesson plans are all laid out for each Sunday. Sign up for the Sunday that works the best for you and take the packet to plan and prepare. There are 13 Sundays over the Summer. Thank you for taking the time to teach the children over the Summer.



THE ABANDONED CABIN ESCAPE ROOM is May 12th-15th. Grab your friends and family and see if you can escape the two rooms in 60 minutes or less! Cost is \$10 per person 7 and older. The proceeds benefit the youth that are going to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX in July. There is no minimum or maximum amount of people that can go through at one time.

FAMILY CAMP forms are due no later than May 23rd. Forms are found on the website at flcgr.org/youth, on the bulletin board by the fireplace, and they were mailed out to families. For more information on family camp, see the April newsletter. That can be found on the website at flcgr.org.



RUBY'S PANTRY is moving forward at First Lutheran Church! We are excited to be able to bring this ministry back to our community. Ruby's Pantry has been a staple in our community for well over 11 years, it is an honor to continue this ministry. Many people have and will benefit from the food they receive.

Ruby's Pantry was founded in 2003 and they currently serve over 510,000 each year. They distribute about 18 million pounds of food every year. There are currently around 80 pantries in MN, IA, ND, and WI. Anyone can benefit from this pantry. There are no income, residency, or age guidelines.

As we move forward you can expect our first day of distribution to be on June 20th. We are partnering with the Armory for distribution. They have a wonderful facility and plan to help unload the pallets off the truck. We will hold Ruby's Pantry on the third Monday of each month.

In the meantime as our leadership team is in the training process; we need your help. If you are interested in volunteering on the day of distribution, please sign up in the three-ring binder in front of the office so our volunteer coordinator can reach you. If you are unable to physically help, you can pray for all the volunteers and the community members that will benefit from the food they receive.

For more information you can go to their website at rubyspantry.org or find the brochures in the brochure catalog in front of the elevator.



GREAT WOMEN OF THE BIBLE SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Last October six women joined together on Zoom to do a small group Bible study series on the Great Women of the Bible. We added a new member to our group in March and we'll be finished with our second series in May.

There have been suggestions of doing an in-person study starting in June (depending on Covid and interest in this). This series will study the wives of King David (Michal, Abigal and Bathsheba), Jezebel, the Shunnamite woman, and Esther. The class size is limited to ten women. The class will be held at 2 pm at church on the first and third Thursdays

starting in June (June 2nd and 16th, July 7th and 22st, August 4th and 18th.)

The study guides are eight dollars each. The class size is limited to ten women. Please contact Kay Grabarkewitz if interested. She can be reached at 218-256-1941 or kaygee@paulbunyan.net.

WOMAN'S NIGHT Thursday, May 19th, 6:30-9pm. All women from First Lutheran are invited to an evening for fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite board game and ideas for future events. Dessert will be served. Please contact Cheryl Finnvik with questions or comments at 612-201-1326.









RHUBARB BREAD

- 1 ½ cup brown sugar
- 2/3 cup oil
- 1 egg
- 2 ½ cup flour plus 2 tbsp
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1 tsp soda
- 1 tsp of vanilla
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 ½ cup fresh rhubarb, cut fine
- 2 Tbsp melted margarine
- 1/4 cup sugar

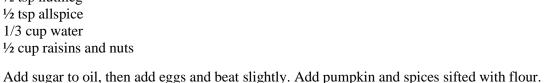


Cream brown sugar, oil and egg together. Sift 2 cups flour, salt and soda together; add to creamed mixture. Add buttermilk and vanilla. Mix rhubarb with 2 tablespoons flour and mix into batter. Place in large greased and floured loaf pan. Combine margarine and sugar; sprinkle over top and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

PUMPKIN BREAD

- 1 ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup pumpkin
- 1 3/4 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp cloves
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp nutmeg

loaves.



Add water and raisins and nuts. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees. Make 1 large loaf or 2 small



1/ Page

May 1st: Deliver May Baskets to the shut-ins. Lunch will be served after the second service. Fill and decorate cards for the May baskets and then deliver.



To All Of Our Youth Born in





Dear Mom, It's not that you're the only one who sees the messes, It's that you're the only one who cares.

Except today.

We care today, because dad's bribing us and he seems serious. Happy Mother's Day!

"Sharing the Love of Jesus"

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - UNAPPROVED APRIL12, 2022

Present: Molly Bartel, Doug Carlson, Dick Buech, Jessica Pellinen, Jennifer Flem, Pam

Clairmont, Mary Buech, Les Flem, Tom Lattimore, Pastor Lovejoy, Linda Urevig

Call to order: Tom L. called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

Opening devotion and prayer: Pastor Lovejoy shared devotion and prayer from

Habakkuk 3:17-18 Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes

***Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Consent Agenda with additions to New Business (1. Ruby's Pantry; 2. Pastor Zeige)

Oral Reports of Boards and Committees

- 1. Boards of Christian Education & Youth: Report in Packet/Pam C.
- 2. Board of Elders: Report in Packet/Les F.
- 3. Boards of Human Care & Missions: Report in Packet/Mary B.
- 4. Board of Stewardship: No Meeting/Doug C. stated that there will be meeting with Pastor Lovejoy.
- 5. Board of Trustees: Report in Packet which included Short-Term Goals and Long-Term Projects.
- 6. AV Ministry Committee: No meeting/Tom L. stated that they have a few more volunteers now, but are always looking for more.
- 7. Revolving Trust Fund Committee: No Meeting
- 8. Wiebe Grant Committee: No Meeting
- 9. Direction and Planning Committee: No Meeting

Family Ministry Program Director's Report: Report in Packet/Jessica P. stated that she had met with area Youth Pastors and discussed Post Prom. She also has been discussing new options for Release Time and Sunday School for next year. There will be a meeting May 1st after the second service to get input from parents and anyone interested.

Pastor's Report: Report in Packet/Pastor Lovejoy

Financial Secretary's Report: Report in Packet/Molly B

YTD income 2022: \$79,834.13 YTD income 2021: \$69,148.05

Treasurer's Report: Report in Packet/Jennifer F. stated that she is looking at some bill paying issues.

As of: March 31, 2022

General Fund Chkg: \$24,653.67

Building Fund Chkg: \$14,046.46

Mortgage loan balance: \$39,105.36

Revolving trust fund Chkg: \$94,603.68

*** Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept oral and written Board and Committee reports.

Correspondence – None

Unfinished Business

- 1. ICTV Update (Possible Sponsorship) No sponsor was found
- 2. Picture Directory Update Pam C. stated that the committee will be meeting with representatives from the Universal Church Directories on June 9^{th} . Pictures are scheduled to be taken August $3^{rd} 6^{th}$. In June there will be a picture directory update at the Council Meeting.
- 3. Visa Card Issues Discussed Visa card payment issues regarding the purchase of a chair and high-top table. Money was later donated for the purchase. A better process is needed for items bought with donations. This will be looked into.
- 4. Medical (First Aid) Kit Update A Medical Kit was donated by Corinne Hultman and can be found in the cabinet located directly in front of the church office window. The kit can be taken along to events. Discussed the need to regularly take an inventory of the contents in order to replenish supplies. Possibly Brad Bensen would be able to do that. This will be looked into.

New Business

1. Ruby's Pantry – Pastor Lovejoy and Jessica have met with various volunteers from Our Redeemer and community leaders about the possibility of starting Ruby's Pantry at First Lutheran. The Armory is a possible distribution site. This is run completely by volunteers with no financial liability to the church. Insurance liability issues will be checked into. There will be a meeting on April 25th for anyone interested in finding out more about running Ruby's Pantry.

- ***Motion was made, seconded and approved to move forward with Ruby's Pantry Statement of Relationship.
- 2. Pastor Zeige Pastor Lovejoy stated that Pastor Zeige is interested in helping with the shut-in ministry at First Lutheran. The pastors would share the shut-in list and rotate every month. With emeritus status, Pastor Zeige would be under First Lutheran as an official minister of the church. This is a volunteer position only.
- ***Motion was made, seconded and approved to install Pastor Zeige as an emeritus status and this will be finalized at the next voters' meeting.

Caring and Sharing
Tom L. adjourned the meeting
Pastor Lovejoy closed the meeting with prayer
Respectfully Submitted, Linda Urevig, Recording Secretary

COMING EVENTS

May 3rd – Board Meetings 6:30PM or as decided by each Board May 10th – Council Meeting 5:30PM





Please have the June Newsletter articles to Shirley by May 15th. Newsletter will be published on or around May 23rd.



