



First Lutheran Church - ELCA

January 2025

The Voice

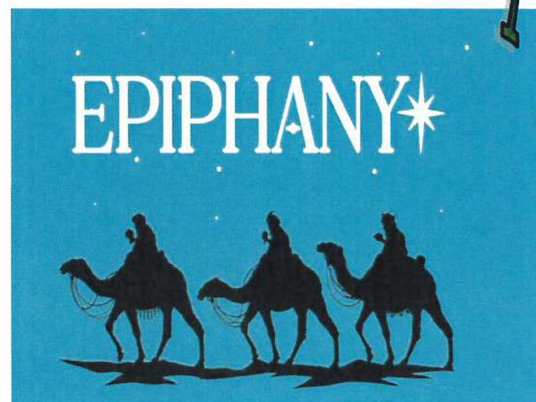
of the First Lutheran Congregation

First Lutheran Church
401 7th Av SW Pipestone MN 56164
Phone: 507-825-5837
Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

Celebrate Epiphany

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The season of Christmas is more than just December 24/25! The song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is spot on, in that the season of Christmas is 12 days long, ending at Epiphany (January 6), when the Wise Men visit Jesus. We will celebrate Epiphany in worship on January 5.



Then comes the Season of Epiphany, which lasts through March 2 this year, the Sunday before Lent starts on March 5th. In Epiphany, we explore how God's word has been given not only to Jewish people, but also to non-Jewish people, like us. We follow Jesus as he begins his ministry, from his baptism, ending with his transfiguration. We get a sampling of his preaching, teaching, and healing. The season of Epiphany is a "green" season, where the green paraments are used, and it is often described as a time of "learning and growing," like leaves on a green tree give the tree nutrients to grow during the summer.

May we count our gifts and blessings during the Christmas season, as the song suggests, and may our eyes be opened to new realizations as we again follow along with Christ's ministry.

See you in Church!

Pastor Ann

7 Resolutions to Grow Your Faith in the New Year

By: [Pamela Palmer](#)

With a new year right around the corner, many people take time to look back over the past year's successes, joys, and hardships. As the year ends, you may begin to consider what you want to achieve or change in the new year. Creating a list of resolutions to accomplish in the coming year has become widely popular. The idea is to make a list of things you want to change or do, or new habits you want to develop, so that the next year will be better and more purposeful. The most common resolutions are to lose weight, manage finances, and travel.

Christians may find themselves putting together a list of resolutions, as well. More than simply losing weight or decluttering one's home, believers can use the idea of making resolutions to place needed emphasis on their relationship with Jesus and strengthening their faith in God. Here are seven new year's resolutions for every Christian to place effort on in the new year.

Are Resolutions Biblical?

Making resolutions is not a biblical concept, yet the idea can help motivate Christians to be intentional about their faith in the new year. Having a list of resolutions does not mean we are predicting the future, instead, having a set of faith-based resolutions can help Christians be mindful to put God first.

"Whether then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" ([1 Corinthians 10:31](#)).

Every year, believers should consider ways they can deepen their faith and live faithful lives. These are the kind of resolutions every Christian can make as they look ahead to a new year. Christians can prayerfully discern resolutions that are in line with Scripture to enhance their faith. Ultimately, whatever followers of Jesus do, we want to do to the glory of God. Making resolutions can help Christians stay accountable to prioritizing God first and foremost.

7 Resolutions for Every Christian

1. Spend more time with God

"After dismissing the crowds, he went up to the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening, he was there alone" ([Matthew 14:23](#)).

We are instructed to model our lives after the life of Jesus. He set the perfect example for believers, and one of the things we read about Jesus doing often was setting aside time to pray and commune with the Father. As you look to set goals in the new year, consider spending more time with God. Ask God to show you how you can make more time for Him. This time with God will give you rest, peace, hope, and wisdom.

2. Connect to a church

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching" ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#)).

The New Testament teaches a lot about the importance of the church body and that followers of Jesus should be part of a community of believers. We need fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to hold us accountable, walk through life with us, and help us grow in our faith. God knows we will face all sorts of hardships in life — having a church family to encourage and support you is vital. There is great purpose in the body of Christ, and each of us should make it a point to connect to a church in the new year, or get more involved in the one you are already attending.

3. Serve regularly

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" ([1 Peter 4:10](#)).

God has equipped every believer with gifts to use, and it is our responsibility to use these God-given gifts. Our gifts build up the church and advance His kingdom. Jesus extended great compassion to those who were in need and came not to be served, but to serve others. In the new year, we can seek ways to serve regularly to help others, use our gifts, and make a needed impact in the world for God's glory.

4. Read the Bible

"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope" ([Romans 15:4](#)).

The Bible is a beautiful gift to humanity that reveals who God is, helps us understand our nature and His great love us, and how we can devote our hearts to God and live righteously for Him. Every day, believers should be in the word of God. It encourages, teaches, corrects, and trains. Many struggle to find the time to read the Bible and study it. In the new

December 2024 Offerings

Monthly Offering needed: \$21,265.00	
Weekly Offering – week 1	
Weekly Offering – week 2	
Weekly Offering – week 3 (includes Wed. night serv.)	
Weekly Offering – week 4	
Offering – Christmas Eve	
Weekly Offering – week 5	
MONTH-END TOTAL:	
Difference from Budget amount needed:	

Needed / week:

4-week month = \$5,316/week

5-week month = \$4,253/week

There are now THREE METHODS to use Simply Giving:

- 1) Your church offerings can be made weekly, every other week (bi-weekly) or monthly automatically through electronic funds transferred from your checking or savings accounts or by using your credit card.
- 2) To the right (>) is a Quick Response (QR) code. When you scan the QR code image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of the church's Vanco/Simply Giving offering site. Just follow the directions on your screen.
- 3) Be watching for other options as they become available.
- 4) Good ol' offering envelopes - they are tried and true still today!!



**Do you want to be a part of what we do here at First Lutheran?
Do you want to see your church grow and thrive for years to come?
Consider being on one of our many committees or on the Church
Council! You can make a difference just by being involved.
Nominations for committees and Council spots are open now, so
contact the church office if you are interested!**

Council Highlights from December 11th, 2024

- ♦ MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Craig Thies, Pastor Ann Zastrow, Kristy Henriksen, Ingrid Wielenberg, Cristy Appel, Karen Boehm, Robert Baerenwald, Nicole Weber, Thad Reinert, Mike Straw, Marit Sterud. ABSENT: Lori Ilse
- ♦ TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion made to pay Peak Pros—\$4,900 from Men's Account & \$14,000 from funds designated to Building Fund, motion carried. Synod bill was tabled.
- ♦ PASTOR'S REPORT: Motion made to accept the furnishing allowance for Pastor Ann's tax info.
- ♦ PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Repairs to the bell tower have all been completed. There is a bill of \$1500 for the coffeemaker, however there is an issue with the circuit board & thermostat. Nothing will be paid until the issue is resolved. Craig is in contact with the company.
- ♦ VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Nominating Committee is still working on obtaining names for committees. Kaffi-Ti is set for December 14th.
 - ♦ CONGREGATIONAL LIFE: Discussed a Time & Talent survey.
- ♦ ADULT ED: Goal to include info on Jesus and the Apostles in the monthly newsletter.
- ♦ YOUTH: Did Christmas shopping—8 youth attended the Christmas party at the bowling alley.
- ♦ PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Received information on a smart meter from Xcel for efficiency. Cleaned leaves out of the gutters at the parsonage,
 - ♦ Need to fill the Financial Secretary position - pay will be \$90/month.
- ♦ Wednesday Night contemporary service on Dec. 11th had 70 in attendance.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 8th, 2025 @7:30pm

Meeting Adjourned

Church News, Events & Happenin's

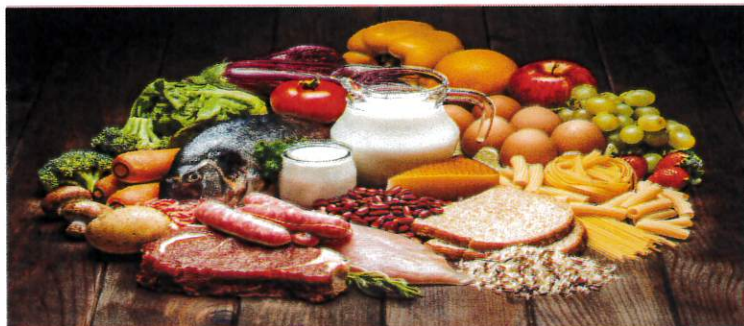
VISITATIONS

If someone is ill or in need of a Pastoral visit, please call Pastor Ann or contact the Church office @ 825-5837. Please remember the following First Lutheran Church members in your prayers, send them a card, or stop to visit them.



Joyce Kunz	Good Samaritan Communities, Pipestone
Darrell Foss	Good Samaritan, Sioux Falls
Kay Dubbelde	The Lodge Assisted Living - Mankato, MN <u>Send any letters or cards to:</u> Kay Dubbelde Mankato Lodge Senior Living 1360 Adams St Rm 410 - Mankato, MN 56001
Diane Leslie	<u>Send any letters or cards to:</u> Sholom Home Bentson Bldg—Apt 414 740 Kay Av, St Paul MN 55102

On behalf of the Pipestone County Food Shelf and those we serve, thank you for your generous contribution..



PIPESTONE COUNTY FOOD SHELF, INC.

Thank You

Karen Hellie

Secretary

Children's Christmas Program 2024



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – 2024





2025 RADIO SPONSORS

We have 12 open slots for the 2025 Radio sponsorships.

If you have a recurring slot, please double-check the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the hall by the office or contact the church office. **Cost per slot: \$58**

Open Radio sponsorships in 2025:

January 12th

January 19th

February 16th

April 13th

April 27th

May 11th

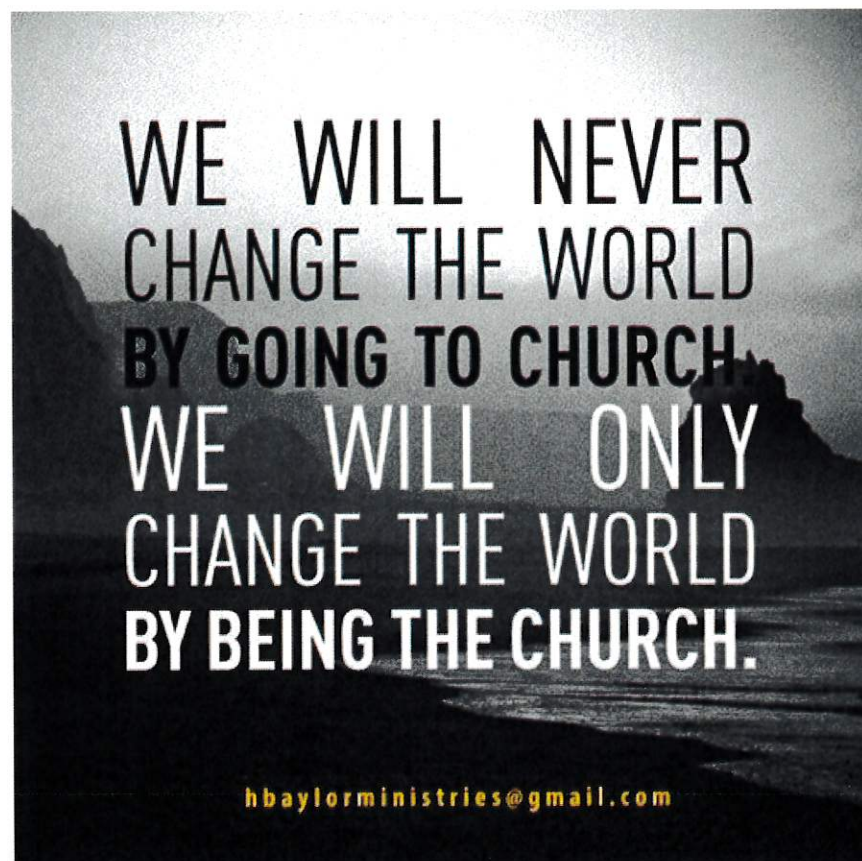
June 29th

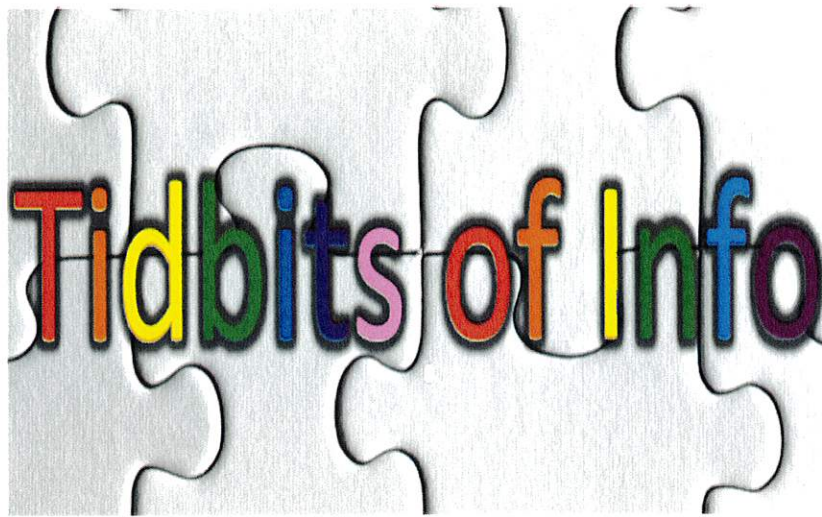
August 31st

September 14th

September 28th

October 12th





Committees Tidbits:

Each month, Committees are asked to submit any additional information that they would like to inform the congregation of. Here are just a couple Committee Tidbits for this month:

- ♦ **Property Management** - As many of you are aware, Peak Pro's fixed the bell tower this past fall. However, we still had some leaking. They came back and did some additional repairs to fix the issue. We are hoping that these fixes will resolve the issues. Thank you! Mike Straw
- ♦ **Adult Education Committee** - I recently reviewed a book called, "The Christian Faith" from a Lutheran perspective written by Peter W. Marty. It's an easy book to read and it covers a series of topics such as doubt, praise, family meals, grace, sin and so on. Quotes by Jesus touches each subject and it gives the reader a simple way to learn what Christian faith is all about. I would recommend getting a copy of this book. Robert Baerenwald
- ♦ **Youth and Congregational Life** - Please help give us some ideas on activities you would like to see here at First Lutheran. We welcome your input and we welcome anyone willing to volunteer to lead an activity, to help organize an activity or willing to chaperone an activity.

Mobile Crisis Response Services

WESTERN MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

1-800-658-2429

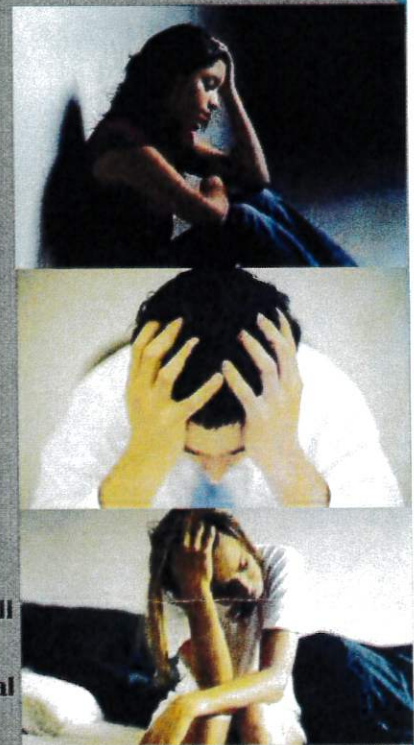
Services Available 24/7 to Adults & Children

Mobile Crisis Response provides:

- ♦ **Telephone Crisis Intervention**
- ♦ **Mobile On-Site Response to Assess and Stabilize a Crisis Situation**
- ♦ **Assessment of Risk of Harm to Self or Others**
- ♦ **Short-Term Stabilization Services**
- ♦ **Individual & Family Mental Health Crisis Intervention**
- ♦ **Services located at your home, school, or other community location**

How Do I Make A Referral?

Anyone experiencing a behavioral, emotional, or psychiatric crisis may call the crisis line at 1-800-658-2429. Referrals can be made by parents/families, schools, law enforcement, human services, hospitals, self-referral or other community agencies.



**If you are experiencing a mental health crisis or
want to make a referral call:**

1-800-658-2429

Available in Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, Rock, Redwood, and
Yellow Medicine counties.

F.L.C.W News & Activities



January 2025

Dear FLCW,

Happy New Year! I hope you have a wonderful year with many blessings.

Thank you to all who helped in any way to make our 2024 Kaffi-Ti a success! We raised about \$2000.00. GREAT JOB! We had people ask about kumkake, so hopefully we will find a way to have those again next year. Carol Johnson was our krumkake maker.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 21st @2pm for our January Gather lesson. We will have a snack potluck. Bring something fun. Maybe you had a new favorite during your Christmas celebrations. Hope to see many of you there. If the weather is nasty, it will be changed.

Quilting begins after the holiday break. Quilting will be on Thursday, January 9th & 23rd at 9:30am. We can always use more people to help. No skills required. We will train.

Not much to report or events scheduled. These are the days we rest from the Christmas rush and enjoy the warmth of our homes. Books to read, crafts to learn, games and puzzles are activities to enjoy. If you really want to, you can clean!!

The Thankoffering envelopes are due for Epiphany, which is January 6th. A few have already been returned to the church office.

Stay warm and cozy!

See You in Church!!

Kristy

Shetek Happenings

January 2025



14 Keeley Island Drive
Slayton, MN 56172
507-763-3567
camp@shetek.org
www.shetek.org

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead
ROMANS 8:34*



**We are looking forward to
seeing you all in 2025!**

Please join us for our upcoming events

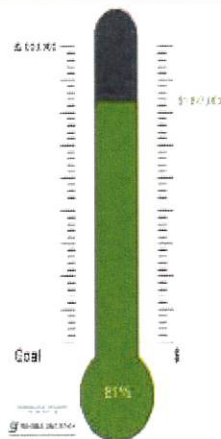
Wish List

- Volunteers
- New Vacuum
- Keurig
- Spark Bibles
- Board Games
- Office Supplies – Staplers, dry erase markers, paper

Mark your Calendar

January 12 Hiking Club
January 15-19 Winter Quilt Retreat
February 8 Family Winter Fun Day
February 10 Hiking Club

We met our Phase 1 goal! \$1,627,000 in gifts and pledges! Our challenge goal is \$2,000,000 and with increased costs, our budget has changed for our different phases. More info on our website.
<https://shetek.org/slm-master-plan/>



Help send kids to Camp... Become a Pelican Club or Timber Society member today. Pelican Club members support the ministry with a gift of \$100 - \$499 a year and Timber Society members give \$500 or more a year. Thanks for your support!

Important Dates to mark:

- ⇒ Every Wednesday - Confirmation for grades 6-8 & LIFT for 5th grade and under.
- ⇒ January 1st - NO Confirmation or LIFT
- ⇒ January 8th - LIFT & Confirmation Resume following the Contemporary Worship service.



YOUTH -

keep your eyes open for winter activities as we plan them thru the next few months. They will be posted on the website and FB page. If you have some ideas in mind, drop a note in the office mailbox!!

The REMIND app is used here at
First Lutheran for our Youth activities!

Remind

To join, send a text to 81010 with the message: @8728964

OR

Visit: <https://www.remind.com/join/8728964>

It's a GREAT way to see opportunities for First Lutheran Youth in grades 6-12! Both students & parents are welcome to join!

FLC Youth January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ~6:15-7:15pm LIFT & Confirmation Resume **School Early Out@2pm	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 ~6:15pm Contemp. Service ~6:40 LIFT/ Confirmation **School Early Out@2pm	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 ~6:15-7:15pm LIFT/ Confirmation **School Early Out@2pm	16	17 	18
19	20 	21	22 ~6:15-7:15pm LIFT/ Confirmation **School Early Out@2pm	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 ~6:15-7:15pm LIFT/ Confirmation **School Early Out@2pm	30	31	

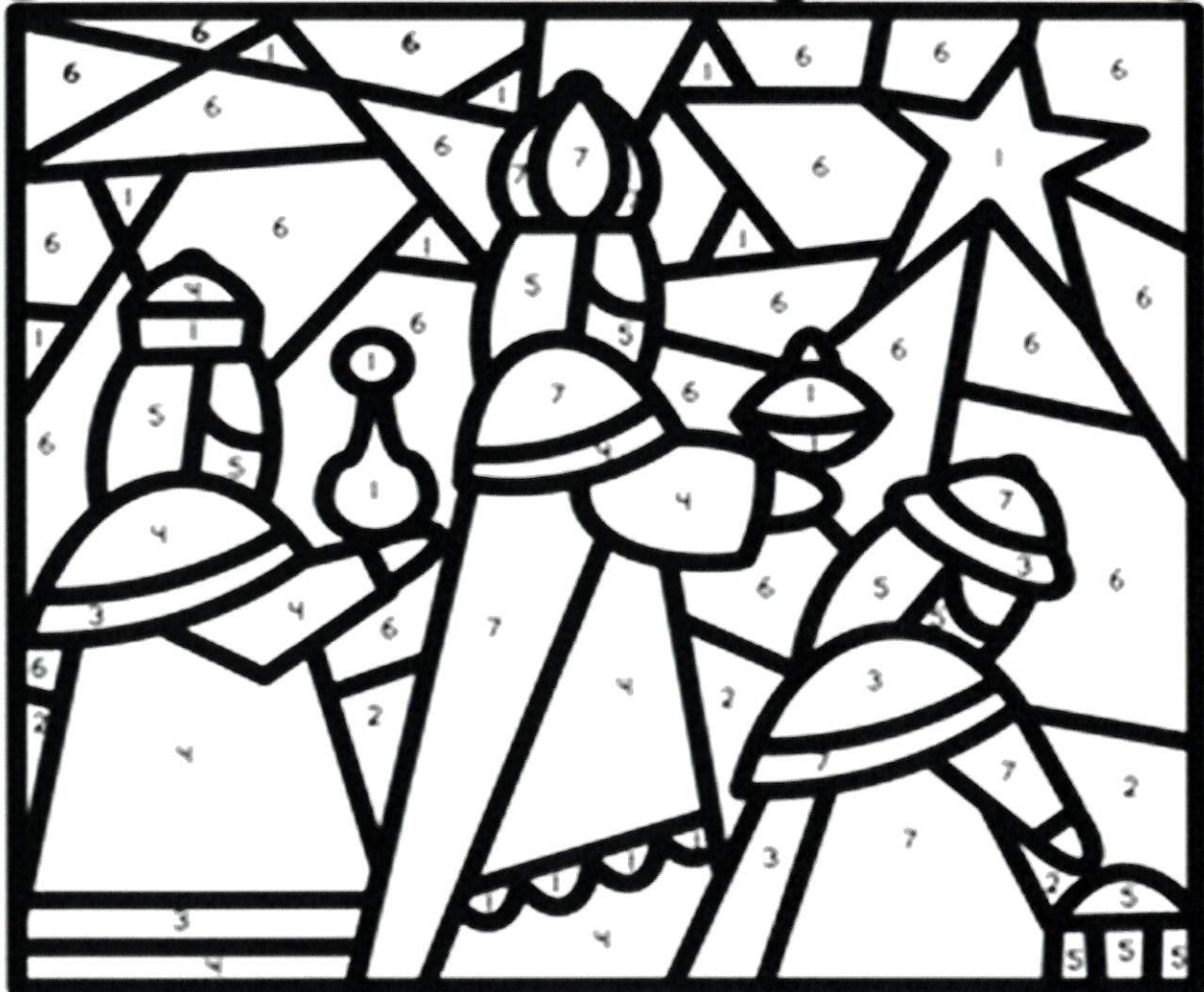
Kidz Korner



Every Child is designed
by God to be a
leader!!

Name _____

Three Kings



1 Yellow
2 Green
3 Purple

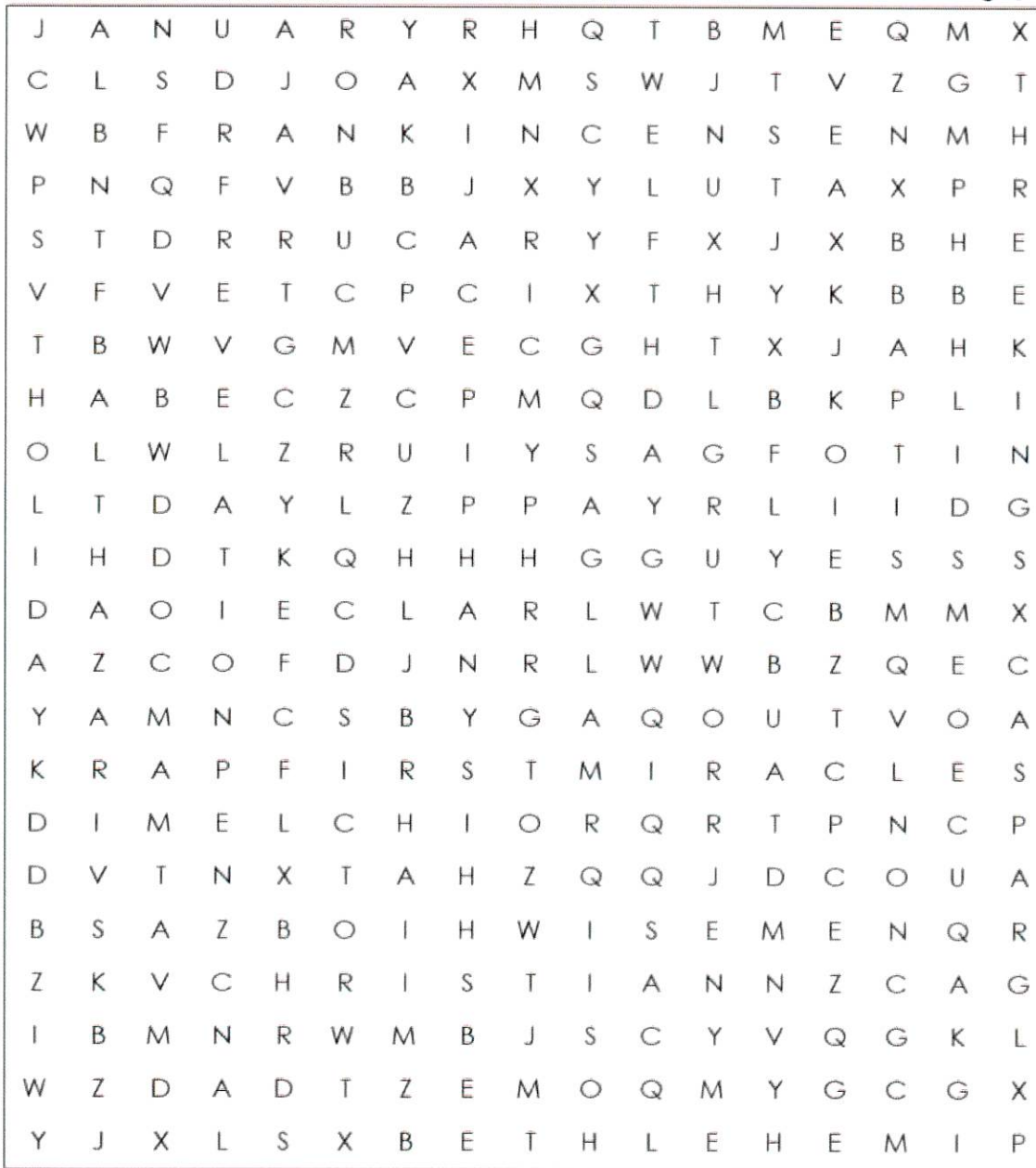
4 Red
5 Brown

6 Black
7 Blue

© 2002

Name: _____

Epiphany Word Search



FIRST MIRACLE	REVELATION	MELCHIOR
FRANKINCENSE	BALTHAZAR	BAPTISM
WISE MEN	BETHLEHEM	HOLIDAY
THREE KINGS	CHRISTIAN	JANUARY
TWELFTH DAY	EPIPHANY	CASPAR

© Monsterwordsearch.com

Novice



January 2025

Worship Assistants

Date	Worship Time	Reader	Acolytes	Communion Assistant(s)	Ushers *(captain)	Sound
1-5-2025 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.	Scott Barduson		Scott Barduson	*Scott Barduson (cpt) ~Wade Smith ~Jake Velde ~Edison Dengler family ~Dan Wagner family	Mark Zinnel
1-12-2025 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.	Scott Barduson		Scott Barduson	*Scott Barduson (cpt) ~Wade Smith ~Jake Velde ~Edison Dengler family ~Dan Wagner family	Neil Johnson
1-19-2025	9:30 a.m.			—	*Scott Barduson (cpt) ~Wade Smith ~Jake Velde ~Edison Dengler family ~Dan Wagner family	Ryan Wielenberg
1-26-2025 Annual Meeting	9:30 a.m.			—	*Scott Barduson (cpt) ~Wade Smith ~Jake Velde ~Edison Dengler family ~Dan Wagner family	Jason Weber

We are in need of Readers, Communion Assistants, Usher Subs and help in the Sound Room.

These are all simple jobs but we are in need of extra hands that are willing to learn a new skill! The more help we have the less work and time is needed from all who volunteer. Please contact the church office if you would be willing to give one of these things a whirl!! It may be more fun and easier than you think!



Wishing you a day of special moments for
thankful remembering of all that has made
your adventure of love a blessing and a joy.



January 14th

Bill & Diane Leslie



On your special day, you are wished all the very best,
all the joy you can ever have and may you also be
blessed abundantly today, tomorrow and the days to
come!

Jan 2	Oakley Houselog	Tishawnna Rohlk	Jan 20	Kayli Borman
Jan 3	Scott Sterud		Jan 21	Bob Hubner Mavis Pierson
Jan 4	Kaden Mastbergen	Jo an VanderPol	Jan 22	Connor Thode
Jan 5	Dan Buffington	Brady Claussen	Jan 23	Dave Boucher Grace Boucher Jocelyn Burnett Ben Lee Tony Wacker Alex Willey
Jan 7	Val Johnson	Harper Royer	Jan 24	Barb Benz
Jan 9	Samantha Davis		Jan 25	Cole Erickson
Jan 10	Cristy Appel Zach Boucher Nicole Weber		Jan 26	Reece Houselog
Jan 11	Hudson Burnett		Jan 27	Kaden Musch Ainslee Wade
Jan 13	Gavin Smidt		Jan 28	Karen Boehm Chester Tollefson
Jan 14	Bob Douty Jen Prouty		Jan 29	Rose Anderson Brayden Baartman Kristen Lee Levi Skyberg Caleb Velde
Jan 16	Mark Christensen			
Jan 18	Boyer Bouman Tami Taubert		Jan 30	Mieko Douty Brady Legler
Jan 19	Darrell Artz		Jan 31	Tamryn Chaulsett Eli Stevens Nelson VanderPol

January 2025

Sat

[illegible]

First Lutheran Church Usher Schedule - 2025

MONTH	INDIVIDUAL'S					
January	Scott Barduson(Cpt)	Wade Smith	Jake Velde	Edison Dengler Family	Dan Wagner Family	
February	Dave Dulas(Cpt)	Jason Weber	Michael Thode	Brian Danks Family		
March	Steve Werner(Cpt)	Neil Johnson	Mastbergen Farm	Andrew Royer	Jim Hartke	
April*	Mark Christensen(Cpt)	Tom Dunn	Tom Willey Family	Bob Hubner	Cory Chaulsett Family	
May	Rob Woodbury (Cpt)	Chris Evans Family	Mike Wussow	Derek Ilse	Scott Sterud Family	
June	Dennis Petersen(Cpt)	Robert Petersen	Terry Swenson		Steve Sneller Family	
July	Ryan Wielenberg (Cpt)	Dave Boucher	Cole Lytle	Dan Lee		
August	Robert Baerenwald(Cpt)	Mike Kent	Creighton Schroyer	Scott Rudie	Brandon Alfson	
September	Jerry Brockberg (Cpt)	Eric Brockberg	Kyle Hansen	Eric Ossefoort		
October	Greg Johnson (Cpt)	Cody Heidebrink Fam		Bob Taubert Family	Rustin Petersen	
November	Al Hollingsworth (Cpt)	Mark Muller	Chris Hollingsworth	Jon Klosterman		
December	Joel Carpenter(Cpt)	Mick Myers	Craig Thies	Thad Reinert	Austin Carpenter	

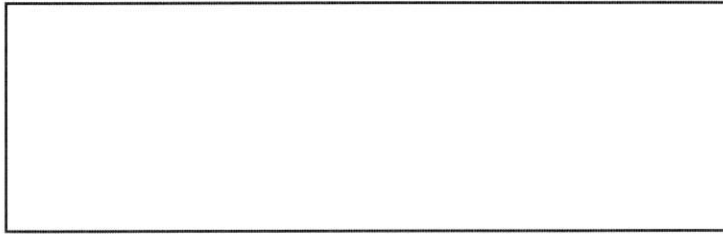
* Includes Maunday Thursday and Good Friday Services April 17th and 18th)

Sub's	Home	Cell	E-Mail
Chuck Sendelbach	825-4154	215-5764	sendel@iw.net
Mark Zinnel		820-2676	mzinnel@iw.net



First Lutheran Church - ELCA

401 7th Av SW - Pipestone MN 56164



Phone: 507-825-5837

Email: office@firstlutheranpipestone.org

The VOICE is produced monthly by First Lutheran Church - ELCA

*We are all one body, one spirit,
compelled by Christ to share His
Word and the promise of salvation.
~Matthew 28*

Worship schedule:

- ♦ 9:30am Sundays at Church & live-streamed on Facebook
- ♦ Radio Worship Broadcast: 10:30am Sundays on KLOH 1050AM
- ♦ TV Public Access: Wednesdays @12pm & 5pm on Channel 3

Our Church Staff

Ministers

Members of First Lutheran

Pastor Rev. Ann Zastrow

Email: pastor@firstlutheranpipestone.org

Admin. Asst/Office Mgr

Lori Ilse Office: 825-5837

Email: office@firstlutheranpipestone.org

Custodians: Mark Zinnel Cell: 820-2676
Home 825-2953
Melissa Burnett Cell: 215-0166

Church Office Phone: (507) 825-5837

Website: www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

Facebook:

Google First Lutheran Church - Pipestone
FB & hit the FB link on the webpage

Congregational Contacts:

**President

Craig Thies Ph: 605-413-7247

*Vice President

Kristy Henriksen Ph: 507-825-3122

Secretary

Karen Boehm

Treasurer Liaison

Thad Reinert

Financial Secretary

Melissa Burnett

First Lutheran Church Women:

President Kristy Henriksen 825-3122

Treasurer Patti Peterson

Secretary Darlene Muller

First Lutheran Church Council meets on the
second Wednesday of each month
@ 7:30 p.m.