

# First Edition



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST LUTHERAN JANUARY 2020

**Let me ask you a question: Did anything magical happen to you on Tuesday night when the clock went from 11:59pm to 12:00am Wednesday morning? For me nothing happened. The clock kept ticking as it usually does.**

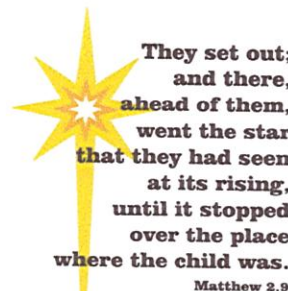
**I woke up in the morning doing the same routines and my same work tasks needed to be completed. Although for nearly half of Americans, that time marked the beginning of something new. Motivation and determination suddenly came over millions of people to change their lifestyles. Unfortunately, only about ten percent of those people will actually stick with their resolutions.**

**So what is it about the New Year that makes a good starting point to change our lives? I say it doesn't matter if it's January 1st or March 20th or August 11th. If we are feeling motivated to make a change in our life, then let that day be day one.**

**As we begin the New Year at First Lutheran, we are going through a new sermon series called 2020 Vision. During this series we will see how God is working still today in a world that seems to be falling apart. We just need to know what to look for. Also, we will take a better look at our own lives. How is God working in my life or how can others see God through my life? These are all great questions to ask ourselves this year. Perhaps attending church more is one of your resolutions. Well, if it is, than maybe this would be a good sermon series to check out.**

**May all those reading this be blessed in 2020 and may we look forward to the wonderful things God has planned for First Lutheran. May His Will be done.**

**Blessings,  
Pastor Matthew**



**They set out;  
and there,  
ahead of them,  
went the star  
that they had seen  
at its rising,  
until it stopped  
over the place  
where the child was.**

Matthew 2:9





# PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

## THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN THE HOSPITAL

Eva Mudgett (leukemia)  
(Pat Long's granddaughter)  
Jessica Nornberg  
Brady Fiest (motorcycle accident)  
Beverly Williams (cancer)  
(Sister-in-law of Glen and Louise Pilgrim)  
Sheila Pohle (cancer)  
(Glen and Louise Pilgrim's niece)  
Jody Anderson (cancer)  
(Jennifer Fundine's cousin)  
A.J. Gratke and Zoe Adams (car accident)

Bonnie Anderson  
Tim Litsheim (cancer) (Dan Long's nephew)  
Nancy Worden (Neal Hofius's sister)  
Paul and Sammie Borgstrom (motorcycle accident)  
Rita Peterson (cancer)  
Adam Long (Dan Long's grandson)  
  
Danielle Matuska (cancer) Jennifer Fundine's aunt)  
Darlene Zabel

## PEOPLE IN THE MILITARY

Jennifer Vasquez (Navy) Don and Sharon Gehrke's daughter  
Isaac Jacobson (Navy) Son of Dan and Wendy Jacobson  
Chad Hagg (army) Son of Arlene Hagg and nephew of Eileen Ausland  
Joseph DeLude (Navy) grandson of Don DeLude  
Sonja Larson—Army, Granddaughter of Mel & Gwen Larson

## UPDATING

If the military, those who are ill or in the hospital, or people in nursing homes is not up to date or if names need to be added or deleted, please contact Sharon Gehrke so that these lists can be updated. Thanks

## PEOPLE IN NURSING AND ASSISTED LIVING HOME

**Riverside Assisted Living**  
Irene Pietz  
Barb Reimer  
Ken Kelling

**Harmony House/Brainerd**  
Char Brattlund

## PRAYER CHAIN

When you need prayer support, there is a group at our church who will pray diligently for whatever the need is. Please call Marlene Lindeman at 218-746-3541.

## Church Council

**President:** Don Osowski  
**Vice President:** Tom Kavanaugh  
**Secretary:** Julie Warren  
Mike Bellos, Bob Harmsen, Julie Hofius, Shirley Smith

Check out our Website at  
[firstlutheranpillager.net](http://firstlutheranpillager.net)

**Pastor Matthew Sundquist**  
Office 218-746-3775  
Parsonage: 218-746-3750

We also have a Facebook page to check out!!!! Please free to post anything or post comments!!! Facebook page search type in First Lutheran Pillager and this should take you to the page. The Calendar will be updated as the schedule changes!

FIRST LUTHERAN PILLAGER COUNCIL  
Council Meeting Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Called to Order at 6:28 p.m.

Present: Shirley Smith, Rosie Harmsen,  
Julie Hofius, Jennifer Fundine,  
Julie Warren, Pastor Matthew  
Sundquist, Tammie Barnett

Opening Prayer given by Pastor Matthew Sundquist

Absent: Darlene Zabel, Don Osowski,

**Treasurer's Report**

Northland Fire Protection suggested "Emergency Lights" at all exits. Tammie Barnett will check into prices for them. Discussed handicap door opener for the front door. Tammie Barnett will check on prices. Reviewed the Treasurer's Report for November 2019. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Julie Warren, seconded by Jennifer Fundine. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report**

Pastor's school is currently on break and begins again in January. Pastor Matthew Sundquist made three home visits. Will try to get on a more regular schedule after the holidays.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report from November was reviewed. A motion was made by Jennifer Fundine to accept the Secretary's report, seconded by Rosie Harmsen. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

\*Worship/Music: No report.

\*Youth/Family: \*Sunday School has started. \*A confirmation student would like to make a GaGa Ball pit. He would provide the wood; he would like to know if the council would donate nails and screws (finishing). Council thought it would be a good idea and approved the idea.

\*Will combine the cookie deliveries with Christmas caroling at Riverside on the 21<sup>st</sup> with the youth.

\*Communication: Letters have been sent to members who have not been attending church.

\*Hospitality: Rosie will be gone the next three months.

\*Sanctuary: No report.

\*Facilities/Building: Will check on the programming for the church thermostats. The door knob will be replaced on the wine closet door.

\*Nominating Committee: Nominated Shirley Smith, Julie Hofius, and Don Osowski for the 2020 nominating committee.

\*Negotiating/Call Committee: Pastor Matthew will need tuition for the first of January. Council agreed as his grades will not be posted until immediately before the tuition is due, will reimburse him right away.

\*Welcome/Visitor's Committee: Julie Hofius thinks she may have a welcome packet to bring in to make more from.

\*Missions: It looks like most of the donation envelopes have been taken from the giving tree for the school.

**Old Business:**

Checked on additional pricing for sidewalks (it is an extra \$15). Need to check on why the alley was not plowed during the last snow. Rosie will check into it.

Will accept sealed bids for the propane tank. Will accept up to the next council meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Will put the date on the slides after Christmas. Will also put it on Facebook.

New phones have been purchased for the church as the old ones were not working.

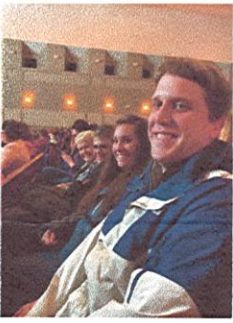
**New Business:**

The natural gas for the parsonage will be hooked up on Friday this week.

**Adjourned:** A motion was made by Julie Hofius to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jennifer Fundine. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.**





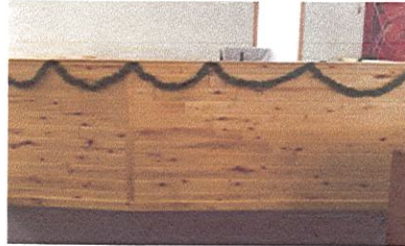
A great evening listening to Teen Challenge at Heritage Church in Brainerd.



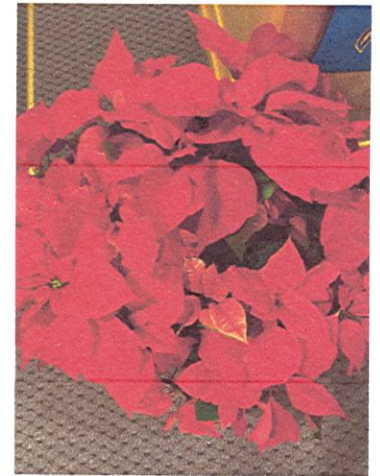
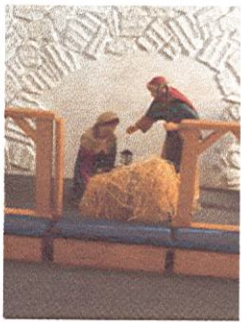
Teen Challenge came to help with our Worship Service on December 15.



Our Mission Tree was very successful this year! Thanks to all who contributed!



Decorating the church! Thanks to everyone who helped this year to make our church beautiful!



We did our cookie exchange this year and delivered to different people in the community. Thanks to all who brought cookies, assembled the cookies, and delivered the cookies. The recipients were very happy with the plate of cookies!

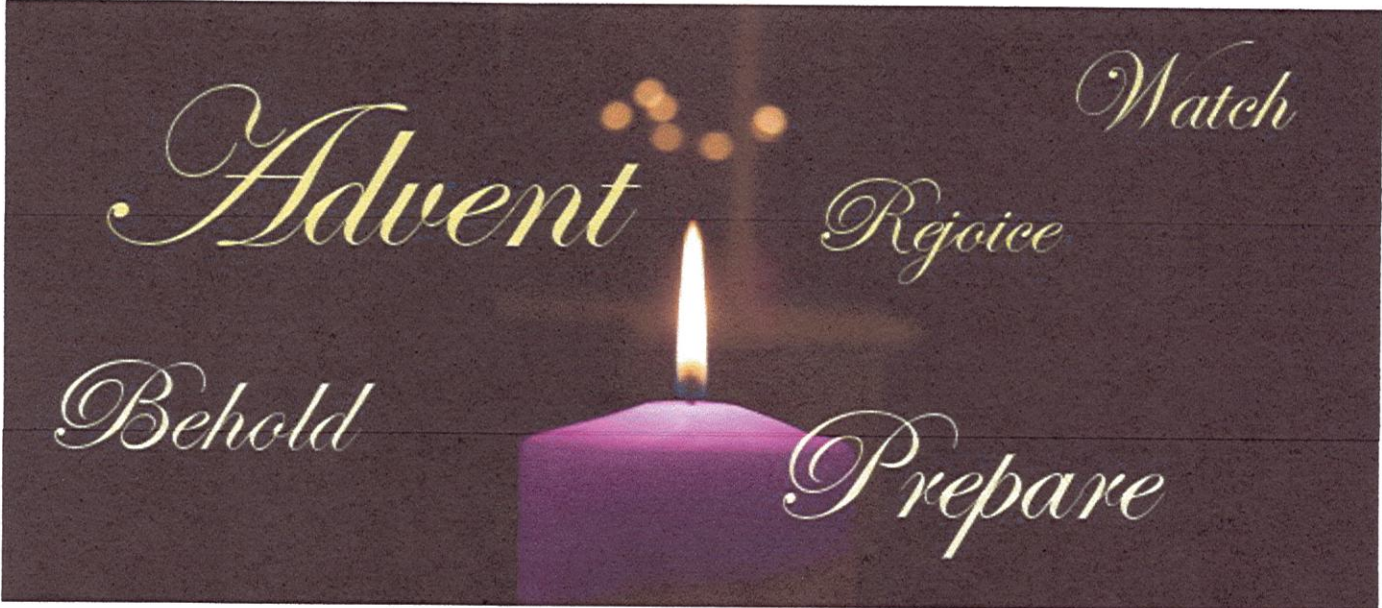
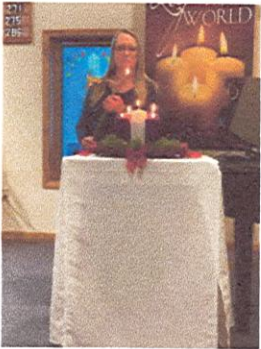
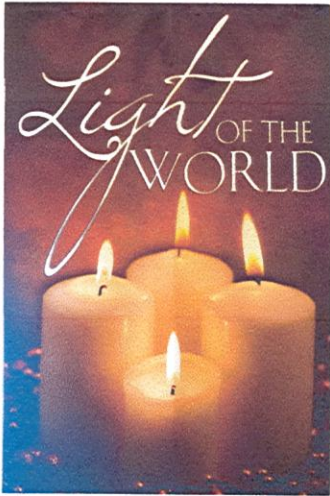
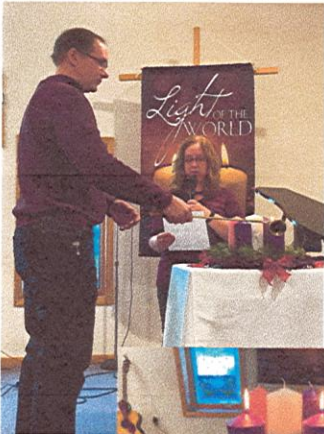


Muriel would like to thank everyone for birthday wishes, birthday cards, phone calls, and visits. She had a great day!!!



# LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES!

WE MISSED SUNDAY 1 BECAUSE OF A SNOW STORM!!!!





# CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



Thank you to all who organized our Christmas Eve Service. It was so beautiful. Thanks to the readers, the soloists, the pianist, choir, and of course everyone who came!