



# The First Perspective

December 2021

First Lutheran Church, Stephen MN



Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.” Luke 2: 19-20

Can you believe it is Advent and we are anticipating the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ? Advent began on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Advent means to arrive, to come. It refers to both past and future as we celebrate the coming of Christ into our world and look forward to his coming again. The Advent wreath and the lighting of the candles represent hope, peace, joy and love. As you light an Advent candle or open an Advent calendar, take time to ponder as Mary did all the season of Advent and Christmas has to offer.

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On Christmas Eve we will light the Christ candle. Christmas the birth of our Savior! We welcome the light of the Christ child. The angels declare Jesus' birth. The birth of Jesus is for all, the angels the shepherds and us!

We look forward to the birth of our Savior with joy and thanksgiving. However, for many, the Advent and Christmas season is a time of grief and sorry due to the loss of a loved one, loss of a job, or even the loss of “normal” due to COVID. In the newsletter I have included a letter from Hospice of the Red River Valley that may help those who are grieving for whatever reason during this time.

My prayer this Advent and Christmas season is that we ponder like Mary and glorify and praise God like the shepherds!

Merry Christmas!  
Marilyn



Dear Members of 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran,

We have lost someone very special...  
Thank you for sharing our grief.

Thank you so much for the beautiful card and kind words to our family. We were blessed to grow up and be part of this church family.

The Soderlund Family

Leaders & Congregation Members,

Thank you for your support of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod's Give to the Max campaign. Thank you so very much for your generous donation to the Synod. It will allow us to better support & resource congregation, and its leaders.

On behalf of the Synod Staff,  
Kristina dernier

On a side note, First Lutheran donated over \$700.00 to reduce the debt of 1<sup>st</sup> called pastors!



## Member News

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Sandie Rud, Jim Brinkman, Wally Vagle, Kay Kroulik, Brooklyn Poe, Jim Jarshaw, Pat Kroulik, James Parker, Shane Reuille, Mira Opp, Karen Schendel, Tara & Tyson Jarshaw, Caitlin Willard, Ethel Thorlacius, Trisha Chwialkowski & Darin Perus, Penny Jensen, Travis Benson, Greg Lubarski, for those deployed; Benjamin Hendricks, Luke Thompson, John Johnson and for all those who are in need but are not listed here.

**THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE**

- Ben Hendricks, son of Brian & Jean Hendricks, Naval Base San Diego
- Todd Jensen, son of David & Penny Jensen
- John Johnson, son of Roger & Jane Smidt, United Arab Emirates
- William Kotts, brother of Garry Kotts
- Luke Thompson, son-in-law of Garry & Sharon Kotts
- Kelsey Schendel, niece of Pr. Mike
- Please remember all our service men & women in prayer.

**EMAILS & CELL PHONE NUMBERS NEEDED**

We are adding/updating email addresses and cell phone numbers to the church's database. Please send your contact information to [firstl@wiktel.com](mailto:firstl@wiktel.com). Many e-mails and phone numbers have changed or need to be added since this was last done.

**DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?**

We are always looking for member news to share and hope to hear from you if you have some exciting news you would like to share with other members. Maybe it is a new child-grandchild-great grandchild, wedding, baptism, or birth in your family that you would like others to know about. We would also like to hear from former members including those who grew up at FLC and have transferred their membership to other churches.

## Church News

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

The secretary's office hours are M-W-F-9:00 AM—Noon

e-mail—[firstl@wiktel.com](mailto:firstl@wiktel.com)---phone--218-478-3895

SAM M. Grandstands' office hours are Tuesday & Friday, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM.

e-mail—[flcpastor@wiktel.com](mailto:flcpastor@wiktel.com)---phone--763-258-9217

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

12/01—Church Council

12/12 --Christmas Program—5:00 PM

12/13— Martha/Ruth Circle

12/14 & 28—Quilting

12/24—Candle Light Worship Service

**MARTHA/RUTH CIRCLE**

Martha/Ruth Circle will meet in December for Bible Study. We will be meeting **Monday, December 13, 2021**, at 6:00 pm at Church for a potluck meal and to read and discuss the Christmas story.

**BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE**

You may have noticed that the Sunday Bulletin is sponsored occasionally in honor or memory of family members. Past sponsorships have included honoring birthdays, deaths, weddings, births, and more. These sponsorships are \$20. Contact the office if you would like to become a sponsor.

**ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Please remember we will need to be changing the paraments and filling the candles like usual as before the pandemic. Communion is now back to "normal". We will continue to serve communion the first and third Sundays of the month. Altar committee members will set up communion on the altar. Thank you.

**DOOR FUND**

A Door Fund has been set up to replace the arched doors and the side door in the front entrance of the Church. The doors have been ordered and will tentatively be installed before winter. You may continue to make donations or memorials to this fund.

**LOOSE CHANGE**

The Loose Change canister will be available by the East Door for the loose change offering each month. December's Loose Change offering has been designated to Pathways Bible Camps. If you drop your loose change offering in the Secretary office door slot, please mark for loose change. Loose Change will also be collected on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Sunday of each month.

**NEW LIGHTED SIGN**

A new fund has been started for a lighted/electronic sign, to replace the current church sign in gratitude for Pr. Mike's 36 years of service to FLC. Donations and memorials can be made to this fund.

**FREENOTES HARMONY PARK**

Three instruments that were ordered have arrived. They will be stored and installed in the spring. They will be placed on the south side of the church and will be available for the community to use. If you are interested in helping with the install, please contact Betsy Jensen via text or phone at 218-689-5375.

**FIRST LUTHERAN NEW BIBLE PROGRAM****12 Minutes a Day.**

That's the time it takes to read the ENTIRE Bible in one year.

It's a small daily habit that has ripple effects throughout the day, week, month, and year.

Carving out time for intentional Bible study brings focus, peace, and perspective to our days.

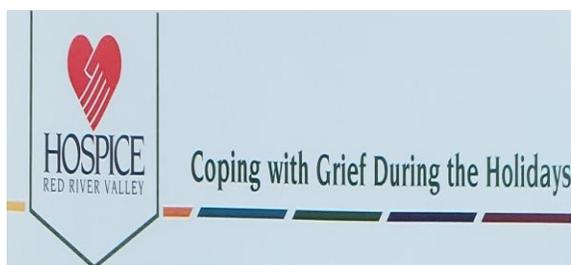
**12 Minutes of Bible study can change the entire tone of the day.**

It's a time to *PAUSE*.

It's a time to *REMEMBER* what is really important.

It's a time to *BUILD* positive momentum for the day.

First Lutheran has invested in a program that breaks down the Bible into weekly reading plans - different chapters or verses each day. This plan follows the Bible in chronological order, so you won't be reading it from start to finish; but moving around as events happened. Each month of plans will be sent out in the monthly newsletter and there will also be sheets located in the brochure rack just inside the East door for those that may not receive the newsletter or would like an extra set for a friend. Join us as we read the Bible together as a congregation/ community.



The holidays are a time of giving thanks, joy and laughter, sparkle and glitter, sharing and gift giving. For people who are grieving, the holidays often bring a mixture of emotions and feelings, being overwhelmed by multiple demands and the difficulty

of coping with the loss of loved ones.

The holidays are a tough time to grieve. Knowing that does not make them any easier, but it may help to understand and accept our reactions and find things to do to help ourselves. This is a time of year for reflection about the past year and hope for what the future can bring. During this time, it is important to look at who you are and your needs.

Grief is about loss and healing. The goal of grieving is to find the will to do what is best for you. It is important to communicate with others during this time of year, sharing your feelings, needs and limitations with others.

It may be important to develop a plan for dealing with the holidays. Having a "plan" can help you gain control. It is okay to change traditions or create new ones. There is comfort in doing things the same way, but it can also be very painful without your loved one. It is important to do only what feels right to you and your family.

Remember to ask for help when you need it. Accept offers of assistance from friends and family. They are searching for a way to make this time easier for you and allowing them to help is your gift in return. If you have children, remember their special needs during this time. Keeping a routine is important. Involve them in any changes and provide extra reassurance. They may express feelings and emotions through behavior, often times reverting to old behaviors. Offer them a chance to express themselves and to talk about their deceased loved one.

It is important to remember that the anticipation of any holiday can be much worse than the actual event. If by chance you find yourself enjoying the holidays, do not feel guilty. Having a good time does not mean you have

forgotten your loved one. You cannot change the past, but you can take care of the present to help you heal for the future.

## Thoughts for the Holidays

### Plan ahead

Bereaved individuals who experience the most difficulty with the holiday season are those who have given little thought to the challenges they may encounter. Consider what may be expected of you, both socially and emotionally, as well as your own preferences.

### Accept your limitations

Grief consumes most of your available energy no matter what the season. The holidays place additional demands on your time and emotions. Plan to lower your expectations to accommodate current needs.

### Make changes

Your circumstances have changed. Expect to make necessary alterations in holiday plans to accommodate those changes. Consider changing your surroundings, rituals and/or traditions to diminish stress. Serve notice to family and friends that this year things may be different.

### Trim down to essentials

Limit social and family commitments to suit your available energy. Shop early or use catalog sales. Re-evaluate priorities and forego unnecessary activities and obligations.

### Ask for help and accept help

Accept offers for assistance with holiday shopping, decorating, cleaning, cooking, etc. Chances are loved ones are looking for ways to lessen your burden. Allow those who care about you to offer their support in concrete ways.

### Inform others of your needs

Give family and friends the tools they need to help you through the holidays. Be specific with them about your preferences and desires and keep them up-to-date when those needs change.

### Build in flexibility

Learn to "play it by ear." There is no concrete formula for learning to deal with loss. You are the foremost authority on what is best for you, and your needs may legitimately change from day to day. Accept the fluctuations that may occur when walking in unknown territory, and learn to take each moment as it comes.

### Give yourself permission to "be"

Allow breathing space and expect fluctuations in mood and perspective. The bereaved work overtime. Not only is life more complicated, but all energy is siphoned into mental and emotional resolution. Grieving is nature's way of healing the mind and heart from the greatest injury of all. Allow yourself the privilege of limping until your wounds heal and you can learn to run again.

## Children, Grief and Holidays

Grieving is a new feeling for you and your children. Providing extra support to them is important at this time. Children may be afraid and not know what to expect.

- They may be afraid of what others will expect from them.
- They may be afraid to ask questions that are bothering them. For example: "Will we still have Christmas or Hanukkah?" "Will Santa come this year?" or "Will I get any presents?"

- They may feel guilty about looking forward to the holidays.
- They may not know what they want to do, and at the same time, nothing feels right.
- They may want to avoid the entire holiday time.
- They may act out their feelings because they are unable to talk about them. They may be moody, demanding, irritable or whiny, cling or throw tantrums. They are not intentionally being naughty, they just may not know how to tell you in words how they are feeling.

During this holiday season, it is important to be aware of the changes in your children and yourself. Being open and honest about changes and feelings is important. Ask questions that need more than yes or no answers. Being aware of the issues will make a difficult time easier.

**Each of our offices has resources on end-of-life issues available for the public on a loan basis. For "lore information about grief and loss, visit our website [www.hrrv.org](http://www.hrrv.org) or call us at (800) 237-4629.**

### Advent Service Project

During Advent our service project will be collecting items to donate to VIP (Violence Intervention Project) in Thief River Falls MN and Northlands Rescue Mission in Grand Forks ND. Below is a list of items that are on their wish list. For additional ideas for items please see their websites:

[www.violenceintervention.org/donate/wishlist/](http://www.violenceintervention.org/donate/wishlist/) and [www.northlandsrescuemission.org/needs](http://www.northlandsrescuemission.org/needs).

Shampoo/Conditioner  
Body Wash  
Deodorant – Men/Women  
Feminine Items  
Shaving Cream  
Razors  
Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
OTC Daytime cold medicine  
Ibuprofen  
Winter gloves, hats, scarves

Nail clippers  
Reading glasses  
Ziplock bags (all sizes)  
Hair brushes  
Plastic shower curtains  
Washcloths  
Hand Warmers  
TUMS  
Cough Drops  
Band-Aids  
Socks

Please help your neighbor in need.

### **SCHOOL AND HEALTH KITS REPORT**

First Lutheran church members and two Thrivent grants resulted in a great gift to send to Lutheran World Relief.

The School Kits gathered 89 bags full of the items needed. Thanks to Ellie & Rylan Klamar for assembling the kits. Health Care Kits totaled 58. Thanks to Al Anton for helping package and deliver to the trucking firm in Grand Forks.

We received 2 Thrivent grants of \$250.00 each. If you haven't used your Thrivent, apply for one to purchase items for more Health Kits. Ellen Anton

## YOUTH NEWS

Boundless  
2022 ELCA Youth Gathering  
July 24-28, 2022  
Minneapolis, MN

Attention all youth going into 9th grade and having finished 12th grade by 2022, the national youth gathering is gearing up and we need you.

We, the Lutheran churches of Lancaster, Hallock, Lake Bronson, Kennedy, Karlstad and Stephen will be working together as one group of youth.

We will rotate meetings and events at each church as we make plans for fund raisers. We can accomplish so much more together than individually.

Information will be coming in a form of letter so we can get an idea how many students will take advantage of this life-giving event. The website for the Youth Gathering is [www.elca.org/YouthGathering](http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering).

Here are the plans for our first fund raiser. We are putting a calendar together. We would like you to sponsor a day. The day could be selected because it is your birthday or your parent's anniversary. The day could be sponsored because you have a favorite teacher. You can decide. You will need to contact the pastor of your church, to purchase the day or as many days as you would like, for the amount of the day. For example, if your birthday is on March 1st, the day would cost you \$1.00. If you purchased the 25th, it would be \$25.00. If the 25th were filled you could purchase any combination of dates to make 25 (5th and the 20th or the 10th, 5th, 3rd and 2nd) or the 25th of another month. We realize the gathering will have happened by the middle of summer, but we believe this is a fun fundraiser, we can celebrate all year.

You can purchase your dates as soon as you read this article. We will make every effort to fill the calendar by November 1st. Spread the word because the dates can be purchased by anyone interested. The Calendars with the completed dates will be for sale in December.

### **YOUTH PRINTER INK AND TONER RECYCLE PROGRAM**

The program for printer ink and toner has been updated and changed. There are several of the printer inks and toners that are no longer accepted. **Brands of toner accepted include: Brother, HP, Cannon and Lexmark. The ink jet brands accepted include: Canon, Epson, Hasler Neo Post, Lexmark, and HP.** We will no longer be recycling cell phones until further notice. You can drop off the used cartridges at First Lutheran Church. Funds go to the youth group.

### **YOUTH CELLPHONE RECYCLE PROGRAM**

We will again be recycling certain cell phones. **Smartphones, cell phones, iPads, tablets, Kindles, iPods, Apple Watches and MacBook**, regardless of age or condition will be accepted. Please drop off your phones at the church, there is a cupboard in the front entry you can leave them in. Proceeds will go to the FLC Youth. If you have any questions, please call: First Lutheran Church or Michelle Weberg at 478-4543.

**ATTENTION**

### THRIVENT MEMBERS

Are you throwing away \$500 a year?  
Thrivent members have the opportunity, to use this money to help local or national causes.  
Questions? Contact Ellen Anton or Staci Winge



Please check the Lay Readers Sign Up sheet and add your name if you are willing to serve in this capacity.  
Thank you to all the Lay Reader who have contributed their reading talents during the last three months including:

**Nona Carl**

**Jane Smidt**

**Patsy Heggen**

**Kris Ann Pietruszewski**

If you haven't been a Lay Reader in the past, find out what is involved by talking to Pat in the office. It is a great service opportunity that doesn't take much time.

## The Bencke Family in Japan

November 2021: 90番

The season has finally changed in Kumamoto. No longer are our eyelids sweating from overexertion. I love Kumamoto fall and winter because of their comparatively mild temperatures and continued flourishing of plants and birds.

I am attaching a little newsletter, which is mostly about how I teach about the biblical God of creation through music at Kyushu Lutheran College. How does music function as a part of worship? Why do Lutherans sing? What is it about music that helps us to synthesize and ground our faith? Well, this newsletter won't answer all of that, but maybe there will be a nugget or two that you find helpful in your own worship this season.

Peace,  
Jackie

**MASKED****UNMASKED (First time I have seen some of these students faces!)**

**How does music help us worship God?**

**I think if most Christians were asked this question, our first impulse would be to address the lyrics of hymnody. After all, it is in the best of hymnody where Scripture is set to music, biblical truths are built on melodies, rhythms, and harmonies, and where the history of the Christian church intersects with today's body of believers.**

**Sacred music in Japan is primarily limited to hymns composed between 1860-1880 that have been translated from English or another European language into Japanese. These hymns have been, like in the United States, clearly delineated and used within specific denominations. In recent decades, both in North America and in Japan, there have been more attempts to share across denominational lines the rich hymnody that has been created. Nowadays, it is not uncommon for a Lutheran congregation to enjoy music from the ancient church (Be Thou My Vision), or Lutheran heritage (A Mighty Fortress), or Roman Catholic tradition (Here I am, Lord), or even Assemblies of God/Pentecostal traditions (Shout to the North).**

**One thing I ask my students when I am teaching hymns to the choir is whether they understand the text and whether they know where the text came from. Usually the answer is "no" on both counts. Interestingly, once I've provided some of this information, they seem to sing with more courage, as though once a connection has been made with another time, culture, or tradition that they have more on the table to offer in their interpretation of the text. It is always interesting to me to examine the source and inspiration of hymn texts and how these texts were eventually set to music.**

**But what about instrumental music? How does that help us understand just a little bit more about God when it is included as a part of our worship? Is it about creating atmospherics? Certainly, music has the power to evoke a certain ambience. Music can function as a "mood relaxing" agent, when it is slow, without rhythm, and with blurred boundaries of harmonic motion. Or it can set our feet to dancing with a kicking back-beat and interesting melodic or rhythmic hook. Instrumental music for worship has much more to offer than just helping worship leaders to establish a mood. The music itself, the very sounds of instruments either alone or in combination with others is a response to God's goodness. We don't make music to "help worship be holy." We make music because the very act of creating music by a group or individual and another group or individual listening to it is a unified act of solidarity in offering praise to God. Participation in music is not simply the act of singing or playing an instrument. By listening, we are receiving the offering of the player and offering our response of gratitude or transformation to God. As we move into Advent and then Christmas, here are some thoughts about how to listen for God in the sounds of music, both sung and instrumental:**

- 1. The sound of a triad chord, 3 tones to create a unified sound, reflects the Trinity!**
- 2. The ascending line of a melody can often be aligned with ascending toward heaven.**

3. **The sound of brass is an ancient way to make a proclamation. What better way to proclaim the Good News than with brass?**
4. **Long, sustained notes bring to mind the eternal and ever-abiding nature of God.**
5. **Minor keys seem to remind us of our brokenness and need to repent.**
6. **Improvisation - sometimes we hear this in jazz or gospel - embodies the freedom that gospel proclaims and makes possible.**
7. **Unison singing or sounds remind us of how we are one body.**
8. **Bells have long been associated with joy (wedding bells at Windsor) and sorrow (tolling bells at Notre Dame Cathedral). Emotions are part of our humanity, which is mapped out in the psalms. There is not a single human condition that is not referenced in the psalms. The musical work of handbell teams is both heard and seen. The unifying of 14 individuals to create a single melody that sounds as though it is from one player is again, a representation of how the body of Christ is diversity within our unity and unity within our diversity.**
9. **Repetition. How many times do we need to seek God's forgiveness? How many times has God reiterated His love for humanity? How often did Jesus speak of and demonstrate loving one another? The Scriptures are repetitive, but always headed toward their fulfillment in Jesus Christ.**
10. **Tension, release, and delay are all used within any phrase of music. It would be very unsatisfying to sing only the first line of "What a Friend we have in Jesus," even though the single phrase is a truth. The delay of gratification in singing to the end of a phrase or stanza, or hearing an instrumental work to the end is fulfillment. The promises given to Abraham are fulfilled in Jesus Christ, and when time is fulfilled, we will be joined with God in heaven with all the saints.**

Some of the prayers of our hearts...

Thank you, Lord, for your abiding love. While we fail to recognize your real presence in our lives, we live in the faith of our baptism that you are the source of all beauty in the art that we create. Help us to remember the promise of your everlasting presence as we enter a season of waiting and darkness.

Lord, we ask for your peace as our family enters another holiday season separated by the miles and travel restrictions. We ask that you keep our daughter Emilie safe and free from loneliness while she experiences a second Thanksgiving and Christmas without her parents and sister with whom to celebrate. God of provision, we trust you will find people with whom she can enjoy the holidays and rejuvenate for the upcoming semester. We look forward to the day when we can travel freely again and trust that you will provide that opportunity in your time.

May we wait in joyful hope.

Home assignment 2022 ...is a GO!

If your congregation is interested in having us come to see you in person, please consider this possibility for next summer! While the dates are not confirmed, a likely scenario will be August and some September availability. Look for more information in February!

Our mailing address:  
 BENCKE  
 KUMAMOTO-SHI  
 SHIMIZU-MANGOKU  
 5 CHOME 17-17  
 861-8068  
 JAPA



**Northwestern Minnesota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



Each week, we lift up rostered ministers, congregations, and ministries.

The synod staff prays for them in their weekly staff meeting and asks that you remember them in your own daily prayer.

### **Congregations**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wheaton

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Clearbrook

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Henning

Grace Lutheran Church, Hallock

Grace Lutheran Church, Ada

Grace Lutheran Church, Detroit Lakes

### **Rostered Ministers/SAMs**

Pr. Mary Suomala Folkerds (Aaron)

Pr. David Swonger (Joanne)

Dn. Joanne Swonger (David)

Pr. Floyd Synstelien [retired]

Val-Jean Syverson, SAM (Kelly)

Pr. Gordon Syverson

### **Partners in Ministry**

Table of Mercy, you can find them on

Facebook @TableofMercyFM



**NOVEMBER MEMORIALS**

Gerald Soderlund	John & Shawna Peterson	Door Fund
	Mike & Cheri Douglas	Memorial Fund
	Tim & Jody Paulson	Door Fund
	Ralph & Audrey Swendseid	Door Fund
Arvid Sten	Mike & Cheri Douglas	Memorial Fund
Palmer Haug	Tim & Jody Paulson	Door Fund
	Ralph & Audrey Swendseid	Door Fund

**First Lutheran Church Council Minutes**

November 3, 2021

**Member Present:** Deanna Swendseid, Connie Troska, Al Anton, Kelsey Anderson, Melanie McGlynn, Krissy McMahon, Betsy Jensen, Gannon Nelson, Jessica Rogus, and Shawna Peterson.

Also in attendance, S.A.M. Marilyn Grandstrand, Patsy Heggen and Ellen Anton

President Deanna called the meeting to order.

Devotions by Betsy.

**Secretary's report:**

Motion by Melanie to accept the October 6, 2021 minutes, second by Kelsey. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Monthly offerings for October totaled \$10,631.00. All the bills have been paid. Motion by Jessica second by Krissy to accept the Treasurer's report as printed. All in favor, motion carried.

Vanco is being used more frequently for offerings and other donations to First Lutheran. A tutorial on how to use Vanco will be made available to members.

Motion by Kelsey Anderson, second by Gannon Nelson, to combine the Senior League checking account and Senior League savings account into one account. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Betsy second by Melanie to use part of the Louise Olson CD to pay for the computers for the offices and video equipment. All in favor, motion carried.

**Membership changes:** None

**Committee reports**

**Deacons:** Nothing to report.

**Trustees:**

The Pastor's office has been painted and the coffee makers have been repaired.

**Parish Education:** The Christmas program will be at 5:00 Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Sunday morning service will be at 9:00.

Bibles will be presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> and (a few) 4<sup>th</sup> graders on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Trust Fund:** Will meet in December.

**Stewardship:** Betsy will make banners to track the fundraising progress for our main projects.

**Old Business:**

The Servant group lists have been updated. Contact Melanie McGlynn, if you would like to make further changes.

**New Business:**

We will have a special offering for 'Give to the Max Day'. The money raised will be used by the synod to help reduce debt for 'First Call' ministers.

The carillon has been repaired.

The Call Committee will meet with Pastor Mary Gilthvedt, our conference dean, on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Confirmation classes have begun. There are two classes, 7-8 grade and upperclassmen. The upperclassmen will be confirmed in spring 2022.

Kelsey made a motion to adjourn, second by Al. All in favor, motion carried.

The next meeting will be December 1st at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Shawna Peterson

Church Council Secretary



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# DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
			1	2	3	4
			6:00 pm— Wednesday School & Confirmation 7:00 pm—Church Council			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 am –Worship Service w/ Holy Communion in- person & live on Facebook. Coffee after service.			6:00 pm— Wednesday School & Confirmation			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 am—Worship Service in-person & live on Facebook. Coffee after service 5:00 pm—Christmas Program	6:00 pm-- Martha/Ruth Circle potluck	9:30 am-Quilting 1:00 pm—Marilyn G. does Worship service at the Tamarac	6:00 pm— Confirmation & Wednesday School			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 am –Worship Service w/ Holy Communion live on Facebook *Loose change Sunday. Coffee after service.					4:00 pm-Candle Light Worship Service w/ Holy Communion in- person & live on Facebook	Merry Christmas!
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9:00 am—Worship Service live on Facebook. Coffee after service.		9:30 am-Quilting				
* Pathways						

THE FIRST PERSPECTIVE  
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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STEPHEN MN 56757

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US POSTAGE PAGE  
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PERMIT NO. 1

## DECEMBER 2021

Snowbird?

Don't forget to mail in your pledge for the  
weekly Worship services you missed.

**Ministers to our Parish:**

Marilyn Grandstrand-Synod Authorized Minister (SAM)

[flcpastor@wiktel.com](mailto:flcpastor@wiktel.com) ~~~~763-258-9217

Patsy Heggen– Parish Secretary

218-478-3895 (church)

All the Members of First Lutheran Church

Published Monthly by the

Congregation of

First Lutheran Church, Stephen

MN.



