



First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Glencoe, MN December 2020 Church Newsletter

“Sharing Christ, Changing Lives”

“And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in the manger, because there was no room for them in the inn”

Are You Ready for a Fresh Start?

For reasons that are quite clear, I think everyone is ready for a fresh start when the calendar turns to 2021 next month. But we do not need to wait for December to be over for a new beginning to arrive.

Even now by virtue of our baptism into Christ, we have a fresh start every day! St. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold the new has come.” This new creation which God has made emerges and arises as we daily live and grow before God in true faith and good works. As Paul also writes in Ephesians 4:24, “Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and good works.”

So, every day we confess our sins to God and God Who is “faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness”

(1 John 1:9). Every day can truly be a new beginning. God forgives you, loves you, has promised eternal life to you and so you can ‘cast all your anxieties on Him because He cares for you’ (1 Peter 5:7). This even includes the burden of the fear of living in an uncertain and sometimes frightening world. God has promised never to leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). He will comfort us now and always and so we are bold to share this comforting Good News with others.

I pray God’s richest blessings to you as we begin this new church year with the season of Advent. May this hope-filled season be yet another reminder that every new day brings with it a fresh beginning in Jesus Christ. He is the Savior who was born for us in Bethlehem and will return to take all the faithful to life eternal with Him in heaven.

Advent blessings and peace be with you!

~ In Christ, Pastor Dan Welch



CELEBRATE Christmas WITH US!

WED. DEC. 2 Advent Worship Service with Holy Communion	7:00 PM
WED. DEC. 9 Advent Worship Service	7:00 PM
SAT. DEC. 12 Glencoe Living Nativity at Oak Leaf Park	5:00 – 7:00 PM
WED. DEC. 16 First Lutheran School Children’s Christmas Service (Pre-K – Gr. 8)	7:00 PM
SUN. DEC. 20 Sunday School Christmas Service	10:30 AM
THURS. DEC. 24 Service of Song and Praise Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	2:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM
FRI. DEC. 25 Christmas Day Worship –with Holy Communion (Live Radio Broadcast)	9:00 AM
TUES. DEC. 31 New Year’s Eve Worship with Holy Communion	5:00 PM

Advent Devotion Booklet

Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries – God with Us

What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In God with Us, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God’s Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, “God with us.”



The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In God with Us, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He knows us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives.

Perfect for personal reflection or to share with family and friends, these seasonal meditations will help prepare you to celebrate the true meaning of these seasons. Please help yourself to a copy located on the entrance stands.

Christ's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness

"But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:10).

These last few weeks have certainly not been expected. It appears to me that no person is immune to the COVID-19 virus. Even when taking extra precautions, no person is immune.

When any weakness, such as the COVID-19 virus, strikes a person, this person will experience what Jesus Christ taught the Apostle Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

So, when we cannot accomplish what we normally find easy to accomplish, such as our activities of our daily living, remember that even in our weakness, Christ's grace is still sufficient for us.

This can be hard to comprehend for many of us as we are taught from an early age to have a good work ethic. But, what happens when one day we can easily accomplish our tasks, but the next day, we cannot?

One of the side-effects of this virus upon me has been keeping concentration. This has been improving, but for several days, I have had a difficult time stringing two sentences together. I have had a tough time recalling some thoughts that are second nature to me. It is as if my mind was in a fog. But, by God's will, I am thankful that my concentration is improving.

For me, I am so thankful that God the Father does not require my concentration — my mind — in order to be saved. I am thankful that He sent His only begotten Son to die and rise for me and all creation, so that through trusting in Jesus, I, and all people, would be saved.

This truth is the only thing that can get us through any weakness. During these weeks in quarantine, I have found a new appreciation for one of my favorite Scripture passages from Paul's epistle to the Ephesians: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

As I found it difficult to accomplish any work, I had to trust in others. This is an example of faith. We, fallen sinners, cannot accomplish everything on our own. We certainly cannot accomplish salvation on our own. All we can do is repent of our sins and trust in Jesus that these sins are forgiven. All we can do is receive — by faith in Christ — what has already been accomplished for us. For every person on earth, we are at the mercy of God. Whether, we are incapacitated, in quarantine, in worry or doubt about tomorrow, or seemingly healthy, we are all at the mercy of God.

All we can do is to be content with our weaknesses, for it is Christ alone who makes us strong. As for living in this current pandemic, all we can do is to trust in Jesus. He allowed this pandemic for a reason. For us, we can only guess what reason: Repentance?

Turning from our idols? On this side of heaven, we will never truly know.

My only advice is to continue to see people as people. Don't see your masked neighbors as possible enemies, but instead see them as human beings who need Christ's grace as we all do. Continue to live your life, but don't be reckless. At this moment in time, it appears that we will all be affected by the virus. It is always easy to play the blame game on how we may become infected, but remember, this virus is novel. This means that "the experts" do not know the exact details on how this virus truly spreads and how to truly prevent it.

Instead of worrying, follow the example of Job. When Satan struck him repeatedly, he never gave in to his temptations. Despite Job's lack of understanding and inability to explain his suffering, he held on to his belief that God is still his redeemer.

So when any weakness strikes you, remember that the grace of Christ is sufficient for you and that Christ's power is made perfect in our weakness. We are made perfect by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We are to always be thankful that God the Father chose to redeem us while we were weak — dead in our sins. We are saved through the death and resurrection of Christ, which all began through His incarnation — God coming in our human flesh.

~ In Christ, Pastor Adelsen



We are especially thankful for all you do to bring glory to God through the various ministries here at First Lutheran Church!

Wed. Dec. 2	7:00 PM – Dean Dahlke / Mark Schmidt
Sunday Dec. 6	8:00 AM – Don Hepner / Doug Dahlke 10:30 AM – Brian Witte / Dave Uecker
Wed. Dec. 9	7:00 PM – Dean Scheele / David Hoesle
Sunday Dec. 13	8:00 AM – Don Hepner / Warren Willcox 10:30 AM – Brian Schuch / Rich Jannusch
Wed. Dec. 16	7:00 PM – Jon Lemke / David Hoesle
Sunday Dec. 20	8:00 AM – Lester Schauer / Dave Sell 10:30 AM – Roger Schmidt / Dennis Wolter
Thurs. Dec. 24	2:00 PM – Jon Lemke / Dennis Wolter 5:00 PM – Brian Schuch / Mark Schmidt 7:00 PM – Dave Uecker / Doug Dahlke
Friday Dec. 25	9:00 AM – Dennis Wolter / Lester Schauer
Sunday Dec. 27	8:00 AM – Dean Dahlke / Brian Schuch 10:30 AM – Brian Witte / Dennis Wolter
Thurs. Dec. 31	5:00 PM – Mark Schmidt /

Greetings FLC members!

We've made it to the final month of 2020. Psalm 46:1 is the verse that pops into my head for this year, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." The constant changing of this year made it feel like a decade in one year. I am thankful that we have a God that is a solid rock that never changes. We may have spent the year praying for God to send Jesus to return to escape all of the chaos. We may not find out why God said, "not yet", but this is our chance to trust fully that He never leaves us for forsakes us. My prayer for all of us is that we can still feel the Christmas spirit in the little things that happen. Find comfort that many years ago our God knew that we needed saving, so He sent His one and only Son to be born in a manger for me and for you. We are made with a purpose, loved, forgiven, and redeemed. Cling to the promises of God and know as this world continues to change that He will not. His love for you is constant.

I also want to speak on behalf of the office staff and say that we are here for you. This year has been challenging, but please know you are not alone. You may be socially distant, but you're near to us in our prayers.

~God's blessings on your month, Tori



Your faithful service is what continues to make First Lutheran Church a wonderful place to worship, fellowship and serve together!

- Wed. Dec. 2** 7:00 PM – Lauren Betcher
- Sunday Dec. 6** 8:00 AM – Brayden Mathwig
10:30 AM – Lauren Betcher
- Wed. Dec. 9** 7:00 PM – Maxx Neubarth
- Sunday Dec. 13** 8:00 AM – Hayden Witthus
10:30 AM – Lauren Betcher
- Sunday Dec. 20** 8:00 AM – Colin Bernstein
10:30 AM – Maxx Neubarth
- Thurs. Dec. 24** 2:00 PM – Maxx Neubarth
5:00 PM – Autumn Schuch
7:00 PM – Tyler Templin
- Friday Dec. 25** 9:00 AM – Carter Petron
- Sunday Dec. 27** 8:00 AM – Autumn Schuch
10:30 AM – Carter Petron
- Thurs. Dec. 31** 5:00 PM – Tyler Templin

ANGEL SEEDS

The October-December Angel Seeds will be donated to the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf which was organized in 1983 to assist residents of McLeod County, Minnesota in the area of hunger relief.



MEFS receives financial donations and food support donations from the individuals, organizations, civic groups, businesses, food rescue partners, and faith partners of McLeod County.

Since 1983, millions of meals have been provided by the generous support of the local community. In the first year, 109 households were served with the number stretching over the years to as many as 1,857 distinct households. More than a half million pounds of food are distributed each year!

In addition to hunger relief, MEFS focuses on providing community support service information.

Thank you for prayerfully considering donating to this important mission endeavor!

BELL RINGERS NEEDED:

Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringers are needed to serve at Coborns this Holiday Season. Beginning November 14th through December 30th. This is a great way to get community service hours and it is also fun to do. All donations stay in McLeod county. Call Annette Ahlfs at 320-864-5231 leave a message or text cell 320-510-3006.



The Cemetery Board

The First Lutheran Church Cemetery Board is accepting bids for lawn mowing, weed spraying, and fertilizing at the First Lutheran Church Cemetery for the 2021 calendar year. The bid should include mowing, trimming, and blowing off headstones before five major holidays: (Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, 4th of July and Labor Day). In addition, please include pricing for spring and fall spraying as well as spring fertilizing. A copy of liability insurance and applicator's license should be included with the bid. Sealed bids will be accepted until December 21st and should be submitted to the church office.

Hosted by the FLC Quilting Ladies & LWML



CRAFT & QUILT SALE

• Wall Hangings • Center pieces • Dish Towels • Table Decor • Gnomes • Art • Quilts • Holiday • Handmade Crafts • More •

EVENT CANCELLED

COVID-19 Precautions will be followed

Fruit Cups, Chips, Cookies • \$10/ Meal •

GRAB & GO LUNCH



Supplemental Funds provided by Thrivent Action Team

VIRTUAL CRAFT SALE

The (IN-PERSON) Craft Sale planned for Dec 5 has been cancelled due to Covid-19. However, many talented people have been busy crafting some beautiful creations, and we'd still like to make them available for purchase. More than (100) wonderful items are waiting to make the perfect Christmas gift! Thank you to the Quilters and all congregation members who donated their handiworks, talents, and time. Monies raised will benefit the Roof Repair Fund.

As this newsletter goes to print, we are working on how we can safely make these items available "for sale". The items are currently being photographed and given detailed descriptions. Our plan is to create a "printable" catalog AND to give the ability to view and purchase items online from our Facebook page. Please watch for an announcement with more information soon.

E-Giving – Electronic Giving

Members and Visitors – We thank all givers for supporting our mission with your gifts. For those who choose to give electronically, in just seconds you can make a weekly offering or pay for events/activities. e-Giving allows you to give anytime and anywhere, donate to your favorite funds, and make your gifts recurring. You can give via a smartphone app, texting, or online.



GivePlus Church – Mobile App
 Text \$ (your \$ amount) to 855-976-9619
 Give online via www.firstglencoe.org

Help bring joy this season

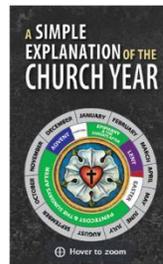
Buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com
 or with AmazonSmile ON in the app
 and Amazon donates



Make a difference this holiday. Shop for gifts at smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0724073 to generate donations for First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Every time you place an order through Amazon Smile, a portion of the sales will go directly to support First Lutheran School! There is a link on Fast Direct to easily access Amazon Smile. Just click on the link, log into your account, and select First Evangelical Lutheran Church as your charitable organization. (First Lutheran School is not listed, so look for First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe. There are several other churches with the same name.)

If you are not one of our parents who have Fast Direct, you can sign on to Amazon Smile when you go to your account the next time you place an order. After you set it up the first time, it will automatically pop up for future orders. Funds will automatically be deposited into the school's checking account each quarter. It is an easy way to support our school, and there is no extra cost to you. Thanks for your help!



The secular world has a calendar, so why wouldn't the Church? The full-color booklet "A Simple Explanation of the Church Year" guides you through the seasons, colors, and important dates of the Church Year calendar. Each season includes explanations to "How We Worship", what each season's colors mean, and important Bible verses with solid, scriptural guidance on these topics. The new church liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent (this year, November 29th).

In each season of the Church Year, the way we worship changes. Please take a booklet for your family and learn about the changes and meanings. The booklets are now available at each church entrance. Provided by the Board of Evangelism through a Thrivent Action Team grant and purchased at Concordia Publishing House.

First Edition Book Club

The book club will not meet until further notice due to Covid 19 safety precautions. In the meantime - keep reading, especially that greatest book, our Bible!



Wish Tree ~ A Great Way to Support FLS



A "Christmas Wish" Tree sponsored by First Lutheran School has been provided next to the Church Office. On the tree, you will find paper "ornaments" that include items needed in various classrooms including the cost of the item written on the back. Choose your ornament(s); place it and your donation in the provided envelope in the box under the tree. Checks should be made payable to First Lutheran School or First Lutheran Church.

14th Annual FLS

Silent Auction & Luncheon

is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 7th, 2021, pending COVID-19 restrictions

Our hope is that you can take the day off from cooking and enjoy delicious pulled pork meal all while placing your bid on the various items up for grabs. Mark your calendar & plan to support FLS!

Donations are being accepted for this year's event now and can be dropped off at the Church Office from 8 AM – 4 PM Monday – Friday. All donations are appreciated and will help to ensure this year's event a great one! To volunteer or make a donation, please contact the Church Office at 864-5522 or a member of the Flame Boosters Club.



NOW SHOWING: Christmas Tree Extravaganza!

The Glencoe Public Library is once again hosting a Festival of Trees. The theme for 2020 is "Christmas Cinema Magic". Take a self-guided tour throughout the Glencoe Library during open library hours: Mon-Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri-Sat 10am-2pm. Please call ahead, 320-864-3919. The Glencoe Library will also be having a virtual tour and photo album of the trees on our Facebook page. Follow us, @GlencoePublicLibrary.

We desire to be a church that loves and serves Jesus Christ and loves and serves our community. We are especially thankful for our greeters who help us spread the love each worship service!



Wed. Dec. 2

7:00 PM – Please consider greeting if you attend

Sunday Dec. 6

8:00 AM – Bruce & Linda Donnay / Charles & Sharon Czycalla

10:30 AM – Jon & Mary Sellnow / Shawn & Jessica Sullivan

Wed. Dec. 9

7:00 PM – Please consider greeting if you attend

Sunday Dec. 13

8:00 AM – Jeri Ring / Dean & Sheila Scheele

10:30 AM – Melissa Adelsen / Robert & Sandy Rannow

Wed. Dec. 16

7:00 PM – Please consider greeting if you attend

Sunday Dec. 20

8:00 AM – Debra Bargmann / Amy Welch

10:30 AM – Janel Fischer / Stan & Rosie Karg

Thursday Dec. 24

2:00 PM – Jon & Mary Sellnow / Julie Uecker

5:00 PM – Dave & Missy Goff / Dave & Betty Witthus

7:00 PM – Please consider greeting if you attend

Friday Dec. 25

9:00 AM – Please consider greeting if you attend

Sunday Dec. 27

8:00 AM – Neil & Cindy Eggersgluess / Lester & LaNaye Schauer

10:30 AM – Lynn Exsted / Jeri & Claire Witte

Thurs. Dec. 31

5:00 PM – Please consider greeting if you attend

GIVE FROM YOUR IRA

If you have a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and are 70-1/2 years old or older, you can take advantage of a unique tool - a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) - to support First Ev.



Lutheran Church's mission in sharing the love of Christ within our church, school, and community.

Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution through your IRA is just another way to support FL with an asset you already own. A QCD transferred directly to an eligible charity like FL can also help you reach your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) up to \$100,000.

Please contact Business Manager, Debi Ramirez with any questions.

How to Watch Facebook WITHOUT Having an Account

Did you know that you can watch Worship Services, Events, Bible Studies, Videos and see Pictures and Posts on First Ev. Lutheran's Facebook page without having your own Facebook account? Here is how you do it:



From your computer's internet browser, go to the First Lutheran website at: www.firstglencoe.org

From the home page, click on the slide "Watch Worship Services Online" on our Facebook page. The First Ev. Lutheran Facebook page will open in a new tab and you will see a picture of the south entrance of our building (to properly identify). On the left-hand side of the page you will see "videos". Click on videos and scroll down until you see the specific video (Divine Services, Behind the Hymn, Children's Messages, etc.).

You can also search for First Ev. Lutheran School and see School related posts. These are "public" pages and so you can peruse without becoming a Facebook member.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Becky for further direction.



This Christmas come and visit a "Living Nativity" presented by Glencoe area churches and community volunteers. Drive-thru Oak Leaf Park and view six different scenes depicting the Good News of Jesus' birth on earth. Hand crafted scenery, live animals, biblical characters, and music will provide a memorable Christmas experience for the whole family!

Saturday, December 12th
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Oak Leaf Park, Glencoe, MN
Enter from Southern-most Entrance and turn left at Vollmer Field
FREE ADMISSION

Boy Scouts will accept Donations for MEFS (McLeod Emergency Food Shelf)

Cars will also pass thru a "lighted holiday decorations display" by Glencoe Lions Club

Event support provided by Thrivent Financial Action Team program

(If inclement weather, event will be postponed until Sat, Dec 19)

Fun & The Son

This is formerly known as the SUMMER SON group! We encourage students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade to join us for games, snacks, crafts, music, and a Bible Story!

Fun & The Son, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. 3:00-4:30 PM

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
First One 9/22	10/13 10/27	11/10 11/24	Christmas Party 12/08	
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
1/12 1/26	2/9 2/23	3/9 3/23	4/13 4/27	5/11 5/25

I.M.P.A.C.T.

Are you an 8th-12th grader? Here at First Lutheran we have this group that meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 6:30 pm- 8:00 pm at the Lighthouse. This group stands for "Influencing My Peers as Christian Teens" and we prayerfully hope that is what is being done. We exist to bring together teenagers in fellowship, to be a place where prayerfully they grow in their faith and have fun while doing it. What you can expect if you come to this is, youth your age, adult mentors that want to invest in your life, games, large-group discussions, small-group Bible studies, and food! You do not have to be a member to attend. We encourage others to bring their friends and hope that this feels like another family for you. Contact Tori Kidd for more info.

I.M.P.A.C.T : Sundays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM @ The Lighthouse

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
First One of the School Year! 9/20/20	10/04/20 & 10/18/20	11/01/20 & 11/15/20	12/06/20 & 12/20/20	
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
01/03/21 & 01/17/21	02/07/21 & 2/21/21	03/07/21 & 03/21/21	04/04/21 & 04/18/21	05/02/21 & 05/16/21

Tweens Youth Group

Students in grades 4 – 7 are invited to join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from after school to 5 PM at First Lutheran for youth group, designed just for you. Tori Kidd and Amy Welch are the leaders. We will meet in the youth room / west-end classroom for a snack, devotions, and games. You may come once, or many times! We look forward to seeing you!

Tweens : 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, after school-5:00 PM

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
First One! 9/15	10/06 10/20	11/03 11/17	12/01 12/15	
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
01/05 01/19	02/02 02/16	03/02 03/16	04/06 04/20	05/04 05/18



Giving Tuesday

Consider a donation on Facebook to get Matched \$ Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving. To help raise awareness of charitable causes and encourage giving, Facebook will match \$7 million USD in qualifying donations made on Facebook during Giving Tuesday (Tuesday, Dec 1, 2020).

This year, they've changed the way they are matching donations so that more organizations will be matched. Here's how it'll work: Matches are made on a first-come, first-served basis and will continue until the \$7M has been reached.

First: For the first \$2 Million, Facebook will match 100% of donations made to qualifying fundraisers. For instance, if you donate \$10, Facebook will match \$10.

Second: For the remaining \$5 Million, Facebook will match 10% of the donations made to qualifying fundraisers. For instance, if you donate \$10, Facebook will match \$1.

Matching will BEGIN on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7 am CENTRAL time. Matched contributions will continue as explained above until the \$7 Million runs out.

First Ev. Lutheran qualifies as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is eligible to receive matched donations per this Giving Tuesday Match program.

If you would like to participate, please be logged on to First Lutheran's Facebook page prior to 7 am on Tuesday, Dec 1st. Be ready to hit the "Donate" button the minute the clock strikes 7 am. In the past, the Facebook monies have been used up in only minutes! It's a wonderful opportunity, but you must be ready to go at 7 am. We hope that the rule changes Facebook has made this year may make the matches more accessible.

If you have any questions, please contact Becky in the church office.



Library News

Fiction:

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE by Max Lucado – In a tiny town straight out of a Dickens novel, the citizens believe in miracles. Every twenty-five years the candle maker is visited by an angel—and when one single candle is lit, miracles aren't far behind. But this year it seems that the age of miracles is past. The new Reverend is uncomfortable with the villagers' belief in angels and miraculous candles. Yet a string of miracles is just what the village needs this Christmas. And no one could use one more than the cynical young Reverend. *The Christmas Candle* explores the mystery of faith and the wonder of love. It's a reminder that when hope and forgiveness meet, miracles are always possible.



You may also be interested in reading.....

KEEPING CHRISTMAS by Dan Walsh

DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW by Debbie Macomber

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE by Max Lucado

CHRISTMAS AT HARRINGTON HOUSE by Melody Carlson

THE SNOWFALKE by Jamie Carie

This is the Life - TV Program

Starting in the late 1950's, Lutheran Hour Ministries aired a TV program, called "This is the Life" in their efforts to bring Christ to the nation. It was a critically acclaimed show that used story and drama to convey eternal truths from God's Word. It featured



actors that were just getting started in their careers. Recently, Lutheran Hour Ministries in partnership with Main Street Living re-mastered and brought to HD quality about 50 of these programs. Even though the props and styles are of the 1960's and 70's, the subject matter is still very relevant.

In the Twin Cities area, This is the Life airs every Sunday at 8:30 am on WFTC Channel 29 (set your DVR).....or you can also watch it anytime online at mainstreetliving.com.



To ensure your prayer request is included in our weekly bulletin notes and the prayers of the church during Sunday worship services, please contact the office by 4:00 PM on Thursdays.



Lutheran Women in Mission | Christmas Party

Monday, December 7th, 2020 FLC Fellowship Center | 12:00 PM

In appreciation for their faithful assistance in typing, finances, Bible Studies, advertising, advice and more, the entire office staff is invited to join us. A \$25 gift to “Keep It Happening” will be given in honor of the office staff. The meeting will begin at noon with a light lunch. We’ll sit distanced and follow the standard Covid 19 precautions. We’ll have a short program “Do You Know the Baby?” We’ll also watch some of Missionary Vance Becker’s “Minute Videos” from his missionary website. “Red Stocking” will be passed. Christmas donations may be given to fund one KDUZ radio Lutheran Hour Broadcast..



Christ for You, Anytime, Anywhere

KFUO Radio, 850 AM, Clayton Missouri broadcasts a variety of Christ-centered programming including Bible studies, daily devotions, sacred music in a variety of styles, apologetics, national and international news . It is the radio station of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. KFUE is expanding its Gospel Outreach Ministry with the help of Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML.) At the LWML 2019 National Convention in Mobile Alabama, KFUE Radio was awarded a mission grant of \$60,000 for the purpose of improving its current equipment and acquiring the latest technology to help increase their listenership, bringing the Gospel to even more people around the world. This grant was distributed to KFUE in the fall of 2020. The mission grants “mites” given here at First Ev. Lutheran are a part of this donation.

YOU CAN LISTEN TO THIS LUTHERAN RADIO STATION!

Even here in Glencoe, we can listen to this Lutheran radio station way from St. Louis, Missouri! It’s on 24 hours a day, anytime, anywhere through their website. If secular radio stations are disturbing you, if you are tired of hearing news from a secular point of view, if you wonder about biased media and “fake news” try listening to KFUE Radio. The Bible studies, music, commentaries, devotional programs, guest speakers are all Scripturally sound and Christ centered. Even national and international news is delivered from a Christian point of view. You can find this Missouri Synod radio station at www.kfuo.org or google “KFUE Radio.”

Happy December Birthday

to honorary “Lutheran Women in Mission” member Lilah Mackenthun. A \$5 gift to LWML mission grants (mites) has been given in your honor. Please notify any LWML member if we’ve missed your “honorary” birthday. We want to make sure all of our most honorable honorary members are honored!



FLC Prayer Chain

New members are needed to keep our PRAYER CHAIN going! You can join either a Phone or an E-Mail Chain.



Participation is simple, but so powerful! The Bible says in Phil 4:6, “But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God.” Thank you to all of our current members for their commitment to prayer – to confidentiality, discretion, and listening to the Holy Spirit.

How does it work?

Phone Chain – Simply receive a phone call from another prayer chain member with a request. When you receive the call, write down the prayer request word for word as dictated to you. Pray immediately and then call the next person on your chain passing on the dictated info. If you are unable to reach that person, leave a message relaying the information. Continue phoning on down the list until you reach a person or the end of the chain.

E-Mail Chain – Simply receive the email from the prayer chain leader and pray immediately.

Have questions, want to join, or have a prayer request? Prayer requests are confidential and may even be made anonymously. Feel free to contact the church office or one of the prayer chain phone numbers: 320-864-3892 or 320-238-2148.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT – PLEASE VOTE

The Website Committee has been working on developing a new logo for First Lutheran. After design and review of many options, we have settled on (2) choices. We now invite you, our members, to vote for your favorite. You may vote at the Display located at either the South or West Entrance. Place a chip in the container of the logo of your choice. If you’d prefer to vote via email, please send your Vote to Becky (office@firstglencoe.org). Please vote only once. Deadline is Monday, December 7th



Option #1



Option #2

Lutheran Hour Topics for December

Each Sunday during December at 12:30 pm listen to the Lutheran Hour broadcast on KDUZ 1260 AM Radio. This month you will hear the following program broadcast topics:



December 6 "Seek My Face" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We sometimes hear the voice before we see the face that goes with it. Seek God's face where you hear God's Word. (Daniel)

December 13 "The Prophet's Paradox " with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The prophet Daniel illustrates how to face the facts while never losing faith in how the story ends. (Daniel: 10, 11 and 12)

December 20 "Experience God " with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We will never fully grasp the idea of God, but that doesn't keep us from experiencing God's love for us in Christ. (John 1:1-18)

December 27 "Welcome to the Family!" with Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook. The book of Galatians gives us a glimpse inside the family of God. It describes the Christian family as one that stands firm in Christ's freedom, walks united in the Spirit, and bears one another's burdens in love. (Galatians 4:4-7)

We have been blessed!! Thank you 2020 Sponsors!

Thank you for supporting the KDUZ Radio Lutheran Hour broadcasts with your gifts and your prayers. We have been blessed with sponsors for all of 2020 and for the first four Sundays in January of 2021. January 31 is still available to sponsor. Call to inquire about sponsoring January 31 or for a special Sunday you would like to sponsor during 2021. We are very thankful for the donations which we receive for the reserve fund. These donations can be any amount and are used to help pay for the open Sunday dates when we do not have a sponsor and also help pay for miscellaneous postage and mailing costs.

Broadcast sponsors are acknowledged at the beginning of each KDUZ Lutheran Hour broadcast with their dedication in memory of a loved one or in honor of a birthday or anniversary. You may want to be an anonymous sponsor with your donation or contribute your donation as a service project for your church group. We would also like to acknowledge and include your home church when we announce your dedication.

At the end of each broadcast listeners are encouraged to listen to the KDUZ Lutheran Hour broadcast each week at 12:30 pm. Listeners are also invited to attend a "Church of the Lutheran Hour" in their area for Sunday services. Listeners to the broadcast may be looking at your church (for this information) as they drive by when they are searching for a church home.

The current cost for each broadcast is \$94.00. Contact Rich Streufert at 320-864-6884 or e-mail richstreufert@embarqmail.com with your sponsorship requests. Checks should be made out to "KDUZ Lutheran Hour Broadcast". Send checks to "KDUZ Lutheran Hour Supporters", First Lutheran Church, 925 13th Street East, Glencoe, MN 55336.

God's Word provides the light we need. Psalm 119:105

Year-end Giving (& Receiving)

For many, giving back is a priority. Giving creates a positive change in people, institutions, and communities. Plus it makes us feel good to know we can do our part to make our world a little better place for future generations. And whether your goal is to make a big impact or a modest gift, charitable giving can play an important role in your year-end planning too.



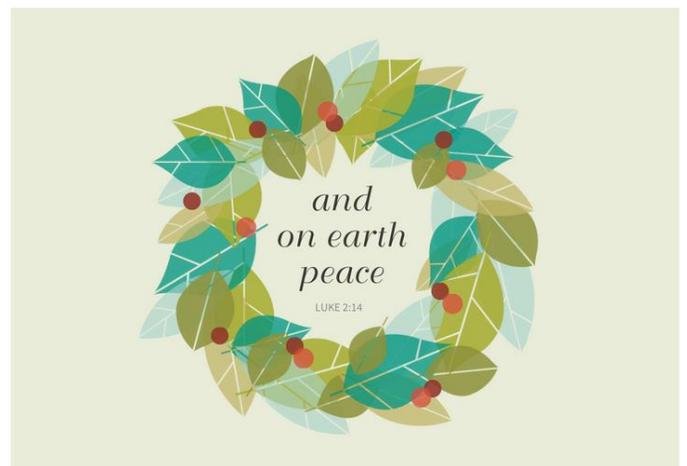
In fact, there are a number of ways to make charitable giving part of your overall financial plan and choosing wisely among them can be the key to making the biggest impact while also minimizing present and future tax liability. Outright gifts of cash or stocks, naming charities among your life insurance beneficiaries, creating trusts that produce income for yourself and your favorite causes, and even establishing private foundations are among the many ways to give smartly.

Giving can mean Saving. With the right approach, you can support your favorite causes and, in return, get:

- A reduction in your taxable income
- A reduction in your capital gains tax liability
- A reduction in your taxable estate

Talk to your financial advisor about your options, especially now as you begin your year-end planning. Because when done right, giving can help satisfy required minimum distributions (RMD's) without increasing your tax situation!

FLC Endowment Committee: President - Les Engelmann, Vice President - Wayne Ahlbrecht, Treasurer - Tammy Mathews, Secretary - Sheryl Mumm, Cindy Eggersgluess, Dawn Schauer, Stephanie Schlauderaff, Debi Ramirez, and a Thrivent Representative.





Stories of Faith

The Public Relations (PR) Team invites members to share their stories related to situations or events in which they experienced God's love and providential care.

Cindy Eggersgluess	238-2148	
	eggsgluecsscindy@gmail.com	
Jeri Ring	864-4029	jring8655@aol.com
Lynn Exsted	864-6452	lexsted14@gmail.com

On September 22, in 1871, an elderly British lady, 82 years young, was ushered into her heavenly reward. Earlier in her life, in 1835, her frustration at being an invalid left her feeling useless and questioning her very salvation. What she did next would echo through history.

As a young woman, Charlotte Elliot was not sure of her relationship with Christ, not sure of how to be saved, even though she had been raised a minister's daughter, and the probing question of a Swiss evangelist, "Are you at peace with God?", would not leave her mind. When she saw the evangelist a few weeks later, she mentioned that she could not shake his question. But, she protested, what could she possibly bring to God? When he replied that she need not bring anything but herself, she gladly accepted Christ.

Some twelve years later, in 1835, crippled by illness and constant fatigue, she felt saddened by her inability to help a local church's cause. Remembering her conversion, she took out pen and paper and wrote a poem to encourage others who felt perhaps they too had nothing to give. . .

"Just As I Am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
Oh, Lamb of God, I come..."

Her poem was published, and she was inundated with requests for it. She was gladdened to discover later that some copies were being sold to raise money for the very cause she felt helpless to assist! After her death, thousands of letters were found in her home, written by people whose lives had been transformed by her words. Her song has been translated into hundreds of languages, published in more than 1600 hymnals, and has reached billions around the world, and continues to bring people to Christ even today.

Sixty years later, in 1931, a 31-year-old man riding in the sidecar of his brother's motorcycle in England finally came to the end of his internal struggle against whether Christ was indeed the Son of God. He finally knew in his soul that indeed Jesus was just who

He said He was! He realized that God calls us to Him "just as we are".

When C.S. Lewis stepped out of the sidecar, he was a new man, saved by grace!

Ninety-nine years after Charlotte Elliott penned her words, and 3 years after Lewis' conversion, the 16-year-old son of a dairy farmer listened intently as he heard the message of salvation preached at a revival service in Charlotte, NC. When the song, "Just As I Am," was sung at the end, young Billy Graham went forward to accept Christ.

Twenty years later, Billy Graham had become a successful evangelist and was invited to speak at Cambridge University in England. His nervousness over the event nearly led him to cancel it. But he was introduced to a kind man named C.S. Lewis who encouraged him to disregard the critics who had spoken out against him, and to continue with the revival.

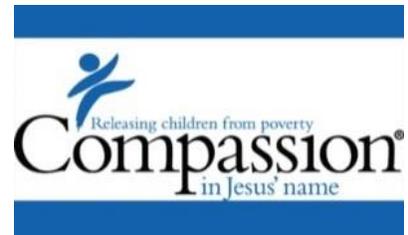
Rev. Graham went on to speak to an overflow crowd of 2,000 each night of the revival, and when he returned to England in 1989, he addressed a crowd of 80,000 at England's Wembley Stadium! As always, he closed the event with the same song that brought him to Christ, "Just As I Am."

Never think you have "nothing" to bring to Jesus! That is exactly what He wants you to bring... nothing! He wants you, just you, as you are! He can take frustration like Charlotte Elliot's, skepticism like Lewis', and nervousness like Billy Graham's, and reach the world through you!

"Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come."

Sunday School Sponsoring Ethiopian Child

The First Lutheran Church Sunday School is sponsoring an Ethiopian child through the Compassion International organization. Abdi is a young boy who lives with his mother in central Ethiopia. One of Abdi's needs is to continue to receive developmental and healthy support from his local child development center. Abdi also needs to hear about Jesus and how he is loved by our God. The Sunday School children will be given opportunities to communicate with Abdi, support Abdi's needs with gifts of Sunday School offerings, and pray for a new friend.



Thrivent Financial News

✓ **Thrivent Choice** –

Thank you Thrivent members for continuing to designate your Choice \$. This past month, we received \$196 for FLC and \$83 for FLS. Visit (www.Thrivent.com/choice) or phone 1-800-847-4836 and say, "Choice Dollars." Have your Thrivent ID# handy. You can phone Mon – Friday from 7 am to 6 pm. If you would like assistance, please contact Cindy or the church office.



✓ **Thrivent Action Teams** – A Thrivent Action Team is a simple, flexible way for you to bring people together to make a positive difference.....you might hold a fundraiser, conduct a service activity, or hold an educational event. Each year, every Thrivent member has (2) Action Teams to use!

Visit Thrivent.com/actionteam to complete an online application (minimum 3 weeks before your event). If you are unable to make your request via computer, you can phone Thrivent and make your request via Customer Service – call 1-800-847-4836.

When your project is approved, Thrivent will provide resources (Action Team Kit) to help plan the event, promotional items (including Thrivent T-shirts to increase your visibility), and seed money to cover promotional and material expenses (\$250 Community Impact Card).

EVERY Thrivent member is eligible to lead two Action Teams per calendar year. IF YOU'RE WILLING TO SHARE YOUR ACTION TEAMS, PLEASE LET CINDY OR BECKY KNOW! There's only 1 month before this year runs out! Involve others – it's all about your friends, family and community coming together to make a positive impact!

✓ **Local Thrivent update** – Our local representative is Cory Werlinger. The Glencoe office is located at 929 12th St E, Suite 104. Phone # is 320-864-2022. (Jeff Rotz has made a change and is no longer with Thrivent.)

✓ **Facebook page for Thrivent Network** – Be sure to check out and "Like" to stay updated on exciting new opportunities and newly created events!

✓ **Be part of the Thrivent Volunteer Program** – and be sure to sign up to receive e-mails regarding upcoming free educational events and other Thrivent opportunities. Sign up at <https://www.thrivent.com/leader-resources/thrivent-volunteers/> or email TwinCitiesTMN@Thrivent.com!

Thrivent Member Network - Twin Cities Region has been working hard to create fun and educational content that you can engage in from the comfort of your own home. Below is a listing of what's coming soon. Guests are welcome! Please feel free to share these events with your friends, family, and community. See all the info and resources at: <https://www.thriventfinancial.com/member-network/twin-cities/>

EXCITING NOTICE!! CHRISTMAS CONCERT CELEBRATION

featuring Grammy-award winner, Michael W. Smith – December 3, 2020 – 7 pm – STREAMING ONLINE EVENT Let's celebrate! Join this annual Twin Cities Thrivent Member Celebration. We will learn how our members have impacted their communities and heard from our Thrivent leadership, followed by a virtual Christmas concert with Michael W. Smith. This event will be available to watch on-demand, at your convenient Thursday, Dec 3rd at 7 pm through Sunday, Dec

6 at 7 pm CST. You must register for this free event at <https://www.thriventfinancial.com/member-network/twin-cities/> This is available to all to watch – so feel free to share this info with friends and family!

Cindy & Neil Eggersgluess - 320-238-2148 / eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com
Linda Becker, Charles Jensen, Verna & Harold Kunkel, Pastor Mathison, Amy Welch – Your Congregational Volunteers



Summaries from Our Boards and Committees

Church Council | November 19th

No Summary Submitted

Christian Education / Youth Board | November 10th

No Summary Submitted

Day School Board | November 3rd

No Summary Submitted

Board of Deacons | November 5th

No Summary Submitted

Board of Evangelism | November 3rd

At our November meeting, we learned about a scheduling software service the church office is currently using for scheduling acolytes and parent-teacher conferences. We will be using this service for the 2021 greeters' schedules and look forward to the details it offers, the ease of use and that it will generate reminder emails prior to scheduled services. A sponsorship funding information and request letter for the KDUZ Lutheran Hour radio broadcasts was mailed out in late October to 106 listening area churches and individuals. Checks and requests to sponsor a broadcast have started to come in. A "haybale lady" with a COVID-19-safe mask was our board's display at this year's Trunk or Treat. 198 Bible based story books were distributed, using our entire supply. Books were donated by the Gideons, through Bruce Bergmann. Church year calendar booklets will be available in the main entry for interested members starting November 22nd. Children's Christmas themed booklets will be available in December and candy canes with the Christian story of the candy cane will be provided for the Christmas Eve/Day services. There will be no Christmas caroling this year per decision of the residential facilities, but they look forward to our return in 2021. Members are encouraged to volunteer to assist with the community "Living Nativity" which will be held December 12th at Oak Leaf Park.

Board of Stewardship | November 3rd

This board is continuing to work on the Giving Tuesday activities and e-Giving promotions. We are working to set up a Minuteman message for later this month with information regarding both.

Board of Trustees | November 2nd

Several school boiler components are being replaced due to small leaks. Our new custodian is doing an excellent job! The church roof leaked above the bathrooms. There were some LED light tubes replaced. Five pressurized toilet tanks have failed and were replaced. Randy Bussler replaced the parking lot light sensor that someone broke off. Neubarth Lawncare did another excellent job on the first snowfall of the season.

Special Gifts Received in November

Marilyn Vorbeck (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$20	FLS
Dorothy Voigt & Edwin Brelje (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$10	Debt Reduction
Dale & Sharel Hoops (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$15	General Fund
Ruth Dose (In Memory of Victor Schmidt)	\$25	FLS
Ruth Dose (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$20	FLS
Sylvia Luehrs (In Memory of Gilbert "Bud" Soeffker)	\$10	FLS
Darrell & Faye Bruckschen (In Memory of Kay Bruckschen)	\$25	General Fund
Don & Elaine Haus (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$15	Street Assessments
GSL Booster Club (In Honor of Becky Edwards)	\$200	Street Assessments
Alan & Brenda Birkholz (In Memory of Bob Schuetz)	\$50	Debt Reduction
Bob & Sue Neid (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$15	Debt Reduction
Bruce & Linda Donnay (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	Anonymous	General Fund
Ken & Joyce Schiroo (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$15	Roof Repair
Ken & Joyce Schiroo (In Memory of Victor Schmidt)	\$20	Angel Seeds
Anonymous (In Honor of Dale & Jeanne Schauer's 50th Wedding Anniversary)	\$50	FLS – Lunch Tables
Kay Falling (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$10	Street Assessments
Elmer & Yvonne Schuette (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$20	Street Assessments
Neil & Cindy Eggersgluess (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$25	Street Assessments
Family & Friends of Robert "Bob" Schuetz (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$50	Street Assessments
Family & Friends of Robert "Bob" Schuetz (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$25	FLS
Frances Downer (In Memory of Gilbert "Bud" Soeffker)	\$10	FLS
Dale & Jeanne Schauer (In Memory of Robert "Bob" Schuetz)	\$15	FLS – Technology
Lorraine Krumm (In Memory of Bruce Krumm & Edwin Krumm)	\$500	General Fund
Duane & Birdie Stuewe (In Memory of Ruth Lange)	\$20	General Fund

First Lutheran Financial Report

2020-2021 Financials: July-October (YTD)

GENERAL FUND INCOME (July-October)		Last Year
Offering Envelopes	209,350.68	\$ 205,872.62
Debt Reduction	4,763.00	9,590.50
Thrivent "Choice" Member Election	1,029.00	2054.00
School "Keep It Happening" Fund	600.00	550.00
School Tuition	78,246.59	74,575.31
	\$ 293,989.27	\$ 292,642.43

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (July-October)		Last Year
Staff	\$313,833.37	\$308,410.67
Employer Payroll Expenses	1,589.04	2,565.88
Buildings	25,035.88	28,981.48
Operations	7,732.03	13,570.76
Interest on Line of Credit	-4.96	- 0 -
	\$ 348,185.36	\$ 336,648.61

2020-2021 MISSIONS & ANGEL SEED OFFERINGS:	\$ 4,932.00	\$ 6,107.50
October 31 st GENERAL FUND INDEBTEDNESS:	(\$ 371,423.78)	
Last Year's October 31 st General Indebtedness:	(\$ 295,088.49)	



First Lutheran School

Flames Flash ~ December 2020



Please Pray for

- Thankful hearts, that we may never take what we have been given by our Heavenly Father for granted.
- Those people whose lives are in need of a kind word and the message of Christ's love during the Christmas season. Help us to share that message.
- Those people who have lost loved ones during the pandemic.
- The families of friends and relatives who can't be with a loved one during this holiday season.

Thank You To

- Everyone who donated to our first trimester chapel offering project.
- Cindy Eggersgluess for her positive attitude and hard work in many different areas.
- All the people who supported our German trunk or treat drive thru meal.
- The wonderful people who donated to our Nonpublic School Marathon.

Calendar Notes

- November 26- 30- Thanksgiving break, No School
- December 16- Children's virtual Christmas Service 7:00 PM
- December 21- No School, Christmas break begins
- December 25- Celebrate our Savior's birth
- January 4- School resumes

FLS Wish Tree ~ A Great Way to Donate

A Christmas Wish Tree sponsored by First Lutheran School to help provide items for the classrooms and school has been put up next to the Church Office with paper "ornaments". Each ornament has a "wish item" & cost written on the back. Choose your ornament(s), put it in the provided envelope with your donation & place the sealed envelope in the box under the tree.

Checks may be made payable to First Lutheran School or First Lutheran Church.

Ongoing Fundraiser

We are collecting: Box Tops, MORE Rewards points, Kwik Trip milk tops, Country Hearth labels and Amazon Smile dollars. Our last check was for over \$320 from the Box Tops program and during the last school year, we received a check from the MORE school rewards program for over \$2,000. Kwik Trip tops earned us a check of \$166.35. Keep up the good work!

Nonpublic School Marathon

The students and donors really came through again this year with the Marathon challenge. The students were challenged this year at different levels. If they raised more than \$7,000 they would get a movie and pizza party AND if they raised more than \$11,000 they would be able to go tubing at Powder Ridge. Well the results are in and the school has been pledged over \$14,300!! The movie event will take place in November, and the tubing will take place when the weather and restrictions permit. The top student solicitor was Ivana Schultz who garnered more than \$1,100 in pledges. We would like to thank all of the fine friends of First Lutheran School for supporting our Nonpublic School Marathon. Anyone who would like to still donate is encouraged to do so. The students and staff are truly blessed by everyone's generosity. This year the majority of the money will be used for STEM projects, classroom supplies, and COVID-19 related costs. We will recognize exceptional donors at a later date. The annual walk will take place in the Spring.

Chapel Offerings

During the first trimester, FLS Chapel offerings went to support Vance and Linda Becker and their Kenyan mission work. Our offering total for the first trimester was over \$600! Our 2nd trimester Chapel Offerings are going to the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Second Trimester Chapel offerings are going toward Global Kids Fund, a program of Lutheran Hour Ministries. This program provides the opportunity for kids in the United States to help raise funds that directly support children in other regions all over the globe. Since 2012, kid donors have given around \$200,000 to support Lutheran Hour Ministries' Global Kids Fund that supports kid-centered ministry efforts in countries around the world. This year, the focus is on Thailand. Every year for holidays including Christmas, National Children's Day, and Valentine's Day, LHM—Thailand conducts school outreach programs that reach between 3,000 and 5,000 children in schools throughout Thailand. During these events, LHM—Thailand staff shares the Good News to students and teachers who have not yet heard the saving Gospel message. In addition, each student who attends the event always receives a gift package filled with LHM children's bilingual booklets, a Bible story coloring book with a crayon or colored pencil, LHM mementos, and a sweet treat or cookie.

School Cancellations or Early Out Information

School closings and late starts are carried on KDUZ, KARP, and WCCO radio stations and on television stations WCCO (4), and KARE (11). First Lutheran follows the Glencoe-Silver Lake Schools for all weather closings. Parents should use their own best judgment on travel safety during poor weather conditions. During inclement weather, parents may take their children home at any time during the day by reporting to the school office by phone or Fast Direct. The dismissal time announced on radio and TV stations is the time the first building dismisses. If the announced time is 12:00, First Lutheran dismisses at 11:50. On mornings with late starts, scheduled classes (band, chapel, etc.) that meet before 10:10 are canceled for the day. You may dial 864-2499 (1) for cancellation or postponement of the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District. Parents should have a plan devised in advance with their children on what to do when school is dismissed early due to weather.

Cost of Education

By the Grace of God and through the generous support of First Lutheran Church, First Lutheran School has been able to educate children in the Love of Christ for 136 years. It is estimated that it costs about \$7000 to educate one child at FLS for a year. Tuition pays between 10% and 38% of that cost. Our many fundraisers pay some of the bills; however, the vast majority is supported by First Lutheran Church. To that end, we ask all members of FLC and especially those who send their children to FLS, to consider these figures when they are donating to their church. Great things are happening at FLS. Let's keep it happening for another 136 years!

Fifth and Sixth Grade News

It is hard to believe we are already well into the third month of school! In English we have been working on sentences and nouns, soon to start learning all about verbs. We also started a unit on writing a Compare and Contrast essay. Students are learning all about how to format a paper correctly, while writing an interesting introduction. We have covered multiple topics in MN history, including the Dakota semi-migratory lifestyle. In Art we have looked at color theory, lines, and space. In religion we have been walking through God's word. Student learned about Creation and ways to defend their faith. We are now reading about Abraham and his story. We have finally started our first book in Literature! Fifth Grade is currently reading Lemonade wars and Sixth Grade is reading the Chronicles of Narnia. After discovering what Turkish Delight was, the students wanted to try some, so we have plans to try some Turkish Delight next week! Can you name any of Shi Huangdi's great accomplishments? If not, ask a fifth or sixth grader. They have been learning about ancient China in their World History class. They have also been learning about some more familiar historical people like Moses and David as they studied the Hebrews and the insights of the Old Testament .In Science, 5/6th grade are learning about genetics and what influences our traits and characteristics. This week they will be applying this to Punnett Squares to determine how traits are passed down. In Technology, they have learned basic skills of coding. Through Scratch, they have created a working video game of Pong. Their new assignment is to create a working animation that recreates their favorite movie scene, tv show, or book.

Merry Christmas

The teachers and staff would like to say "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year" to all of our church and school families. We are extremely thankful that our congregation has made Christian Education a priority mission for over 136 years. Many of our newer families have joined us for various reasons. Whatever the case may be, we are thrilled to have all of our wonderful students here. We are honored that the parents of First Lutheran School have given us the opportunity to teach their children about honor, respect, persistence, faith, and the joy of learning as they are surrounded by the love of Jesus. We pray that love may be shared this Christmas season and throughout the year in our neighborhoods, state, nation, and world.



The 1st grade class celebrated the 50th day of school on Monday, November 16th with a sock hop and teleported back to the 1950's. Pictured: Levi Weidendorf, Annabelle Freberg, Emerson Edwards, Evangelina Oelfke, Drew Schmitz, Erin Horton, and Miss Thiesfeld



The Kindergarten class honored Veterans on Veteran's Day. They held a celebration that included the pledge, a new song, and flags for each student. In addition, they received gifts from the VFW.



The second-grade class hosted their own Macy's Day Parade. The decorated balloons and paraded around the Fellowship Center. Pictured above is Griffin Bargmann & Madison Goche.

The CHRISMONS that decorate our CHRISTMAS TREE

Chrismon, is a combination of two words: CHRIST and MONogram. A Chrismon is an ornament (always in white and gold to symbolize the purity and majesty of the Son of God), which depicts some divine attribute of Christ or reminds one of a divine gift that Christ bestows. The Chrismon Tree is a visual sermon in which the believer sees the blessed message of the Christmas Gospel – that Christ came as man's Savior. It is our hope that this brief description of some of the various symbols used on the ornaments will make our ChrismonTree more meaningful.

The earliest symbols for our Savior are *letters* from the Greek alphabet. Examples are:

- X** -The first letter (chi) of the word Christ.
- IHC** or **IHS** -The first three letters of JESUS.
- ΑΩ** - Alpha and Omega, first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Rev. 22:13 calls Jesus the alpha and omega, the eternal God.
- INRI** - an abbreviation for the Latin inscription on the Cross, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews". Iesus, Nazarenus, Rex Iudaeorum.

A **cross** is a reminder of our Lord's sacrifice to redeem us from our sins. The different forms of the cross point to the various aspects of our Saviors' work. Some examples are:

-  -**TAU Cross**, salvation promised, but not yet accomplished.
-  -**Cross CROSSLET**, the spread of Christianity to the North, East, South and West, to the ends of the earth.
-  -**LATIN or PASSION Cross**, cross of suffering; with pointed ends it reminds us of the nails, thorns and spear.
-  -**Cross in GLORY**, the rising sun behind the cross symbolizes the new day, when our Lord conquered death by His resurrection.
-  -**Cross TREFLEE**, three circles on each of the ends symbolize the Holy Trinity.
-  -**GREEK or LORD'S PRAYER Cross**. All four arms of equal length.

Other **symbols** for our Lord and God include:

- CIRCLE** - eternity, God who is eternal.
- TRIANGLE**, or **THREE INTERWOVEN CIRCLES** - Our Triune God; the Holy Trinity.
- STAR** - symbolizes the close relationship between the birth and death of our Lord; also the prophesy of His coming.
- FISH, IXOYC** - the Greek word for fish is an acrostic on the first letters of "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior". The fish was a secret sign used between early Christians during times of persecution.
- BUTTERFLY** - Symbol of the Lord's Resurrection.
- ROSE** - Nativity of our Lord. He was called "the Rose of Sharon".



HAND OF GOD - This is perhaps the most outstanding symbol of God the Father. God's hand is extended to give us His blessing and to supply our needs.



LAMB OF GOD - The white pennant represents the body of Christ which is attached to the cruciform staff, representing the cross on which the Lamb of God died and thru which the Risen Christ saves the world. When the Lamb is depicted lying down, reference is made to the suffering Christ. When the Lamb is standing, suggestion is given that the Lamb of God is risen triumphantly.



THE CROWN - The Kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ as He sits at the right hand of the Father and rules over the world and His church on earth. It also can represent the reward of the faithful Christian life.



THE DESCENDING DOVE - The most usual symbol of the Holy Spirit, reminding us of how the Holy Spirit appeared upon Jesus at the time of His baptism by John the Baptist.



THE SHELL on the 8-POINTED STAR - The shell is a symbol for Holy Baptism, as the shell was used for pouring water. The 8-pointed star is a symbol for the regeneration of the Christian through Baptism.



THE CHALICE & WAFER on 6-POINTED STAR - A symbol of the Lord's Supper. The 6-pointed star is called the Creator's Star, reminding us that thru the Body and Blood of Jesus we are brought back into harmony with God.



THE WHEAT and GRAPES - Another symbol of the Lord's Supper.

THE FIERY CHARIOT - As Elijah ascended into Heaven on the Fiery Chariot, so, this Chrismon reminds us of the Ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



December 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALTAR GUILD WORKERS Cheryl Scheidt 864-3356 Elaine Tabbert 864-4912 Janet Wendorff 864-5438 		1 GIVING TUESDAY 1:00 PM - Staff Meeting 6:15 PM - Stewardship 6:30 PM - Evangelism 7:00 PM - Day School Board	2 7:00 PM - Advent Worship Service w/ Holy Communion	3 8:10 AM - FLS Chapel (Pastor Welch) 7:00 PM - Deacons	4 	5
6 8:00 AM - Divine Service w/Communion 9:15 AM - Bible Study 10:30 AM - Divine Service	7 12:00 PM - LWML Christmas Party 6:30 PM - Trustees	8 1:00 PM - Staff Meeting 1:30 PM - GlenFields w/ Communion	9 7:00 PM - Advent Worship Service	10 8:10 AM - FLS Chapel (Good Shepherd) <i>Pastor's Circuit @ Our Savior's</i>	11 	12 5:00-7:00 PM Living Nativity @ Oak Leaf Park
13 8:00 AM - Divine Service 9:15 AM - Bible Study 10:30 AM - Divine Service w/Communion	14 	15 1:00 PM - Staff Meeting	16 7:00 PM - FLS Christmas Program	17 8:10 AM - FLS Chapel (Mr. Scheele)	18 	19
20 8:00 AM - Divine Service w/Communion 9:15 AM - Bible Study 10:30 AM - Divine Service	21 FLS No School	22 FLS No School	23 FLS No School	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 2:00 PM Service of Song & Praise 5:00 PM - Candlelight Worship 7:00 PM - Candlelight Worship FLS No School Church Office Closed	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:00 AM - Worship Service w/ Communion KDUZ Radio Broadcast  FLS No School Church Office Closed	26
27 8:00 AM - Divine Service 10:30 AM - Divine Service w/Communion <i>No Bible Study</i>	28 FLS No School	29 11 AM to 12:30 PM Common Cup Diaper Distribution at City Center 1:00 PM - Staff Meeting FLS No School	30 FLS No School	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 5:00 PM - Worship Service w/ Communion FLS No School Church Office Closed	Church Contacts: 925 13th St. E. Glencoe, MN 55336 320 - 864 - 5522 office@firstglencoe.org www.firstglencoe.org Like us on Facebook!	School Contacts: 1015 14th St. E. Glencoe, MN 55336 320 - 864 - 3317 www.firstglencoe.org Principal: Mr. Scheele Like us on Facebook!