

# The Messenger

Volume 27 Issue 2 Office 996-7706 e-mail: [luther@mitchellfirstlutheran.org](mailto:luther@mitchellfirstlutheran.org) Fax 996-7727 February 2024

## FEBRUARY FOCUS.....

### CAMP SUNDAY

Come & learn about Bible Camp opportunities!

**Sunday, February 25th**  
9:30 - Worship with Paul Hanson,  
Lutherans Outdoors Executive Director



Corner of Duff & Sanborn  
[www.MitchellFirstLutheran.org](http://www.MitchellFirstLutheran.org)



JOIN US FOR  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**February 14th**  
5:30 - 6:30 pm  
**Meal Served**  
BBQs, chips & veggies  
w/free will offering to help with  
National Youth Gathering expenses  
7:00 pm  
**Worship in the Sanctuary**  
with Holy Communion  
Sanborn & 5th Ave., Mitchell, SD  
[www.MitchellFirstLutheran.org](http://www.MitchellFirstLutheran.org)

### Valentine Cookies

The annual Valentine Cookie Sale begins on February 10 through February 14. This fundraiser benefits the First Lutheran Post-Secondary Scholarship. In two years of this scholarship, 18 scholarships have been awarded to First Lutheran students. Prices begin at \$1 and up. Heart shaped cookies, brownies and rice-krispie treats.

The sale dates are as follows:

- ♥ Saturday, February 10: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- ♥ Sunday, February 11: Before and after the worship service
- ♥ Monday, February 12: 12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ♥ Tuesday, February 13: 12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ♥ Wednesday, February 14: 9:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.

Join us Wed. evenings for ...  
**Lenten Worship**  
(Feb. 21 & 28  
March 6, 13 & 20)  
Meal served:  
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Worship 7:00 p.m.

Featuring the music of  
**Holden Evening Prayer**

# CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## COUNCIL MINUTES — January 9, 2024

Please note: these minutes have been edited for the newsletter.  
The full minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway

### Pastor's Report:

- ◆ Sign Update: Mid-February installation
- ◆ Safety, Policies & Procedures need to be updated and implemented
- ◆ Personnel Manual: Gave to council members to review
- ◆ Pastoral Acts:
  - ◇ 5 baptisms, 19 for the year
  - ◇ Prayer service & funeral
  - ◇ Confirmation resumes January 10
  - ◇ Next semester: Luther's Small Catechism

## DOLLAR\$&CENTS

### DECEMBER ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS:

December 3	187/OL:82	\$8,336.87
December 6	49	\$170.00
December 10	174/OL:90	\$6,243.45
December 13	37	\$70.00
December 17	257/OL:104	\$9,407.45
December 24	249/196/92	\$10,844.70
December 24	Online: 90/102	
December 31	135/OL:72	\$5,705.95

December 2023      Offering      **\$40,778.42**

**\$34,347.00** is needed per month to meet monthly budget.

### Deacon's Report:

- ◆ Pastoral Care: Worships at Countryside, Firesteel, Brady, Edgewood Memory, Wesley Acres and Edgewood South
- ◆ Milestones/Confirmation: Letter mailed to five confirmation families asking for input.
- ◆ Groups: Joined Sarah Gather Group on January 4, Planning a 3-week Women's Study "Help, Thanks, Wow" at noon and 6 pm Mondays, January 22, 29 and February 5
- ◆ Community Connections: Attended Mitchell Area Diversity Coalition on January 4, Attended varsity girls and boys basketball and Rehearsing with DWU and Community Choir on Thursday evenings

### Ministry Reports:

- ◆ Fellowship & Caring: Group will meet again on February 6. Nancy will meet with Roberta Gjesdal who will be taking her place on the council.
- ◆ Faith Formation: Journey with Jesus will resume January 10. Focus will move from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Amanda Schutz will be filling Jon's place on the council.
- ◆ Stewardship: Letters are going out on stewardship, 'Blaze Spirit Blaze'
- ◆ Property: Toilet problems are solved. Discussed changing the lightbulbs in the Family Life Center so they are all the same (color).
- ◆ Evangelism: Kayla will use social media to highlight FLC activities. Discussion on updating the directory.

**Reception of the Treasurer's Report:** December 2023 income: \$43,468.22; expenses \$35,138.69. Net gain for December \$8,329.53. YTD 2023 Income \$9,522.65. Rick made a motion to receive the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Wayne. Motion carried.

### Connecting faith and daily life . . .

through:

*inspiring worship,  
joyful service,  
gracious welcome,  
bold witness,  
and lifelong faith formation.*





**Items for Personal Care Kits are always welcome!**

The following items are included in each Personal Care Kit:



- ⇒ One light-weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27") dark color recommended
- ⇒ Two to three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- ⇒ One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ⇒ One sturdy comb (no picks or fine tooth combs), remove packaging
- ⇒ One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Items can be placed in the tote in the Glass Lobby.  
 Monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office.

**Attention 5th Graders!**  
**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS**  
**Wednesdays during Lent**  
 Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>  
 March 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>  
 \*Classes will meet during our Journey with Jesus time.

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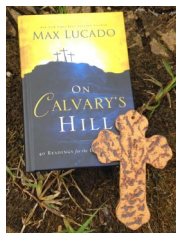
**February's Noisy Offering**

is being collected for the First Lutheran Scholarship (First Lutheran Post-Secondary Scholarship). This scholarship is available to First Lutheran high school seniors and current First Lutheran college students attending any accredited technical college, college or university.

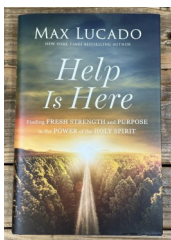


**Sisters in Faith upcoming events**

Lenten Devotional study, *On Calvary's Hill*, by Max Lucado. There are 40 passages to read. We will get together three times during Lent for discussion and fellowship. Tentative dates are February 26 and March 11 & 25 at 7:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to join. The cost of the book will be around \$7.50 and if you would like a copy please contact Michelle White, 605-999-3211, books will be ordered on February 1.



In April we are planning a book and video study by Max Lucado, *Help is Here*. The study normally lasts about 90 minutes one evening a week. Books and study guides will need to be purchased by March 10 to have them here in time. Depending on the number purchased cost will be \$45 or less for the book and study guide. Questions or to order call or text Michelle., 605-999-3211.



**Coborn's Receipts**

We are collecting receipts for the months of November & December 2023 and January 2024. Receipts prior to November 2023 cannot be used. Please turn in your receipts by February 14. The church receives 1% of the total receipts which is used for transportation costs.  
 Thank you for your participation!



Mid-week Meals will start on Ash Wednesday, February 14 and go through March 20. Look for who is serving the meal and what will be served in the Sunday bulletins. BBQs, chips and veggies will be served by the youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observation of Presidents Day!

First Lutheran Church will host the Prairie Rivers Synod Assembly meeting on Sunday, February 4. Registration starts at 2:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 2:30 p.m.



## Gather Study Groups

- ◆ **Tuesday, January 30**
  - ◇ 11:30 a.m. FLCW Board Meeting, First Lutheran Library
- ◆ **Thursday, February 1**
  - ◇ 9:30 a.m. Sarah Group, Family Life Center
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 7**
  - ◇ 9:30 a.m. Lydia Group, Countryside Game Room



**All First Lutheran women are invited to be part of any of these groups which meet on a regular basis. Please join us.**

## Book Club

Here is a list of upcoming titles for book club



- 📖 February 16: *A Day Like This* by Kelli McNeil
- 📖 March 15: *Look for Me There* by Luke Russert
- 📖 April 19: *Spoken from the Heart* by Laura Bush
- 📖 May 17: *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins (first half)
- 📖 June 21: *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins (second half)

Book Club meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Friday of the month at the home of Deloris Spry

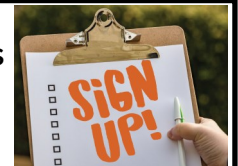
## Scholarship Reminders

- Applications have been sent to First Lutheran Church members who are currently high school seniors. Current college students may pick up an application in the church office. Completed applications are due in the church office by March 1.
- Seniors planning on attending an ELCA college/university, and students currently attending an ELCA college/university, are eligible to apply for the Prairie Rivers Scholarship. Applications may be picked up in the church office after October 20. The completed applications are to be returned to Joan Anderson by April 1.



Students are asked to sign up to sell Valentine cookies on the following dates:

- ◆ Saturday, February 10: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Sunday, February 11: Before and after worship
- ◆ Monday, February 12: 12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Tuesday, February 13: 12:00-6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Wednesday, February 14: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



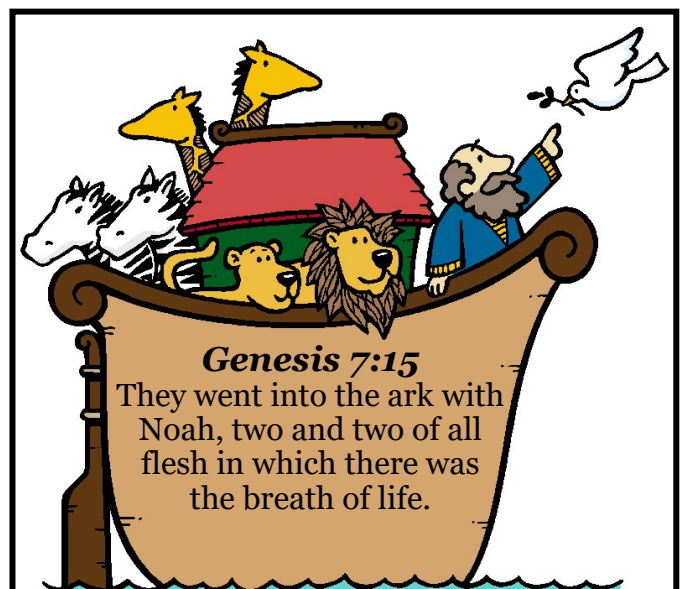
Sign up on the clipboard on the counter in the Glass Lobby. Adult help is also appreciated at times when students are unavailable.

## UPCOMING RUMMAGE SALE!

First Lutheran will be hosting another rummage sale in June. Please begin saving items to donate.



Meals on Wheels delivery schedule for First Lutheran will be March 25-May 3. Watch for sign-up schedule coming soon. Please consider helping with this important service to our community!





# FAITH MILESTONES

## 2024 Faith Milestone Calendar

### March

Thursday, March 28:  
5th Grade  
First Communion Milestone  
(during Maundy Thursday Worship)  
First Communion instruction 6-6:40 pm  
February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 20  
\*Painting of Chalices, Maundy Thursday Seder-Station Meal with Families

### April

Sunday, April 14/Wed., April 17  
8th and 9th Grade  
New Driver Milestone  
\*Light Fob

### May

Sunday, May 5  
High School Graduation  
\*Quilt

### August

Sunday, August 18  
All Ages  
Back to School Blessing  
\* Back to school items

### September

Sunday, September 8/Wed., Sept. 11  
7th Grade  
Beginning Confirmation Milestone  
\*Confirmation Bible  
Sunday, September: 15/Wednesday, September 18  
3rd Grade  
Chapter Bible Milestone  
\*Spark Bible

### September/October

Sunday, September 29/Wed., Oct. 2  
Kindergarten  
Prayer Milestone  
\*Prayer Pillow

### October

Sunday, October 6/Wed., October 9  
3-year-old  
Story Bible Milestone  
\*Spark Story Bibles  
Sunday, October 27  
9th Grade Confirmation  
Affirmation of Baptism Milestone  
\*Faith Talks/Faith Statement/Faith Fair



## February Prayer and Care Worships

Each month First Lutheran leads worship at six Mitchell retirement and care centers. All are welcome to attend.

\*2pm February 8 at Firesteel

\*10:30am February 14 at Countryside

\*11:00am February 15 at Edgewood Memory

\*2pm February 20 at Brady

\*7pm February 27 at Wesley Acres

\*11am February 28 at Edgewood South

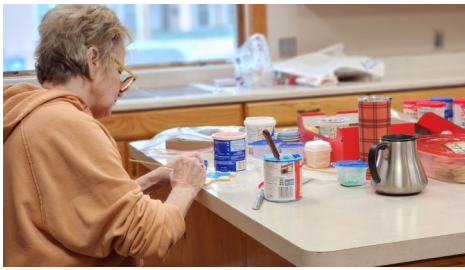
## Children's Sermon, Sunday, January 21



## NEW CHAIRS & CHAIR CART FOR CONFIRMATION!







Prepping for Valentine Cookie Sale



### Wednesday Night Journey with Jesus



# JOURNEY WITH JESUS

