

The Messenger

Volume 28 Issue 4 Office 996-7706 e-mail: luther@mittchellfirstlutheran.org Fax 996-7727 April 2025

APRIL FOCUS.....

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13th @ 9:30 a.m.

Featuring the choral event,

Followers of the Light

sung by the First Lutheran Choir



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17th @ 6:45 p.m.

with Holy Communion

and first communion for 5th graders



Good Friday

Friday, April 18th @ 6:45 p.m.

reading of the Passion story

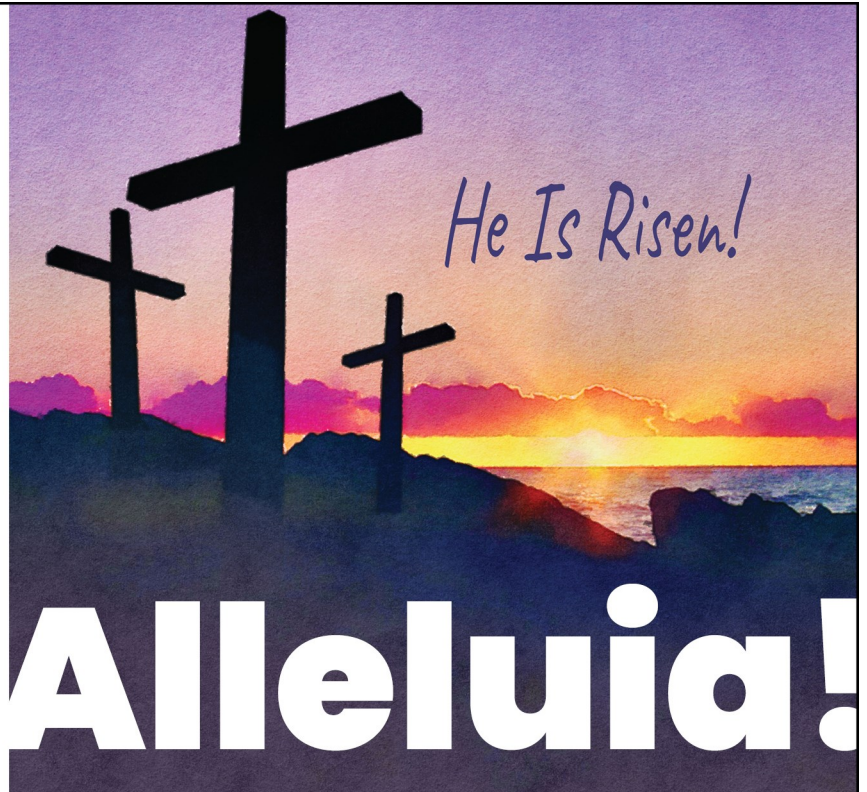
and the veiling of the cross



Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20th

Worship @ 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.



Followers of the Light

Palm Sunday Choral Event

Sunday, April 13th

@9:30 a.m. worship

music by the First Lutheran Choir

Children will
process in with
palm branches!



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

COUNCIL MINUTES — March 18, 2025

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:

- ◆ 14 students have started First Communion Classes
- ◆ Email blast is being sent out with a new "First Word" heading
- ◆ Staff reviews will be scheduled before the April Council meeting

Deacon's Report:

- ◆ Laundry with Love table is set up in the Family Life Center inviting people to donate in various ways to the Church on the Street. On Tuesday, May 13 a meal will be served and donations will be delivered to Laundry with Love.
- ◆ Attended the Prairie Rivers Conference meeting on March 11.
- ◆ Will attend the Rostered Ministry Spring Theological Spring Conference in Sioux Falls April 27-29.

Ministry Reports:

- ◆ Worship: Kathie Freeman and Chancel Choir are rehearsing Thursday evenings for Palm Sunday choir events on Sunday, April 13. Choir will also sing Sunday, March 30. There has been special music almost every Sunday. Midweek Lenten services have begun with the preaching theme "Open My Life, Lord". Preachers include Pastor Scott, Deacon Kris, Pastor Sue Burris, and Jon Mueller. Also, special music by the Praise Team. The Bell Choir is practicing on Wednesdays with plans to play on Wednesday, April 2 and Sunday, April 6.
- ◆ Fellowship and Caring: Worship at Care Centers: March 19 at Brady, March 26 at Edgewood South, April 10 at Firesteel, April 15 back at Brady, and April 22 at Wesley Acres. Next Prayer and Care meeting is May 6.
- ◆ Faith Formation: 5th graders are learning about the sacrament of Holy Communion and will have a faith milestone on Maundy Thursday, April 17 with a meal together with their families followed by participating in Holy Communion at the worship service. New driver milestone will be April 27 and April 30 at the worship services. Summer Camps: Outlaw Ranch: 5-7 grade, July 20-25, NeSoDak, High School youth, July 20-25, Pastor Scott at camp Churchwide Assembly July 28-August 1.
- ◆ Stewardship: 2025 Pledges: 94 for a total of \$320,934 and Building Fund pledges: 32 for a total of \$12,974.
- ◆ Property: Set the date of April 26 starting at 9:00 a.m. for Spring Clean Up with a backup date of May 3. After discussion, accepted the bid for not to exceed \$65,000 to repair the bell tower from Williams Masonry, Inc. Motion made by Steve, seconded by Kayla. Funding for the project will be discussed at a later date. Work to begin within the next month.
- ◆ Evangelism: Will do a mailing for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Two new members classes are being held with New Members to be received on April 6.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS:

February 2	171/OL:66	\$9,595.82
February 5	24	\$100.00
February 9	151/OL:56	\$4,210.92
February 16	149/OL:96	\$9,136.15
February 19	20	
February 23	151/OL: 60	\$26,980.90
February 26	21	

February 2025 Offering **\$50,023.79**

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

Reception of the Treasurer's Report: February income \$50,314.98; expenses \$43,439.85. Net ordinary income for February was \$6,875. Year to date income is \$91,950.98 and total expense with \$87,268.34 leaving a net ordinary income for the year of \$4,682.64. Steve made a motion to receive the Treasurer's report, seconded by Amanda Sonne. Motion carried

New Business: Discussion was held with Scholarship Committee Charter changed to Faith Forward Committee Charter. Motion was made by Amanda Sonne to accept Faith Forward Committee Charter to maintain 2 separate financial accounts, the Scholarship Fund and Camp Fund. Seconded by Pam Wells. Motion carried.



You can support the
ministries of
First Lutheran through

venmo





April's Noisy Offering

is being collected for Lutherans Outdoors which provides opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to connect with one another. These connections allow each person to explore and play in a nurturing environment, which leads to a stronger faith foundation, discovering personal gifts, developing new skills, as well as building life-long relationships. Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota is dedicated to the quality faith experiences and hospitality for youth and adults and has been for more than 65 years.



Faith Milestone of First Communion

First Lutheran Church fifth graders and their families will participate in the Milestone of First Communion at the 6:45 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship on April 17. Fifth graders have painted pottery cups (chalices) to use at their first communion. Prior to Maundy Thursday worship, there will be a meal served and seder stations to experience for fifth graders and their families at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.



First Lutheran will be volunteering at Laundry of Love through Church on the Street on May

13. Please see the table in the Family Life Center. Donations are needed: laundry detergent pods, dryer sheets, stain remover, NEW underwear for all ages and QUARTERS, bins are on the floor under the display table. Sign ups for meal preparation and volunteers for traveling along to Laundry of Love will be available soon!

COME TO THE WATERS!

Baptism Class

Sunday, April 13th

@ 10:45 a.m.

(in the Family Life Center)

For those preparing for baptisms of their baby, children, or for themselves.

Bring your questions!



April Prayer and Care Worship

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

*2:00 p.m. April 10 at Firesteel

*2:00 p.m. April 15 at Brady

*7:00 p.m. April 22 Wesley Acres

*11:00 a.m. April 23 at Edgewood South

Faith Milestone: New Drivers (8th and 9th grade)

All new drivers and families (8th and 9th graders, including those in

Driver's Ed or planning to be in Driver's Ed this summer) are invited to come to 9:30 a.m. worship Sunday, April 27 or 7:00 p.m. worship Wednesday, April 30 for a "Blessing for New Drivers". New drivers will receive a blessing marking the milestone of driving and a gift to take with them on the journey.



12TH GRADE MILESTONE: GRADUATION

The milestone blessing for high school graduates will be held on Sunday, May 4. Seniors: bring your graduation robe and gather in the Family Life Center at 9:15 a.m. During the service you will receive a blessing and a quilt made by the



Piecemakers at First Lutheran Church. Following the worship service a brunch will be held for the graduates and families in the Family Life Center.



New members will be received during worship on Sunday, April 6. Fellowship will follow worship. Come and help welcome our newest members.



Easter Brunch will be served on Sunday, April 20 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. Egg bake, muffins, fruit and drinks will be served.

Gather Study Group Dates & Times

UPCOMING EVENTS



♦ Tuesday, April 1

- ♦ 11:30 a.m. WELCA/
FLCW Board Meeting, First Lutheran Church
Library

♦ Wednesday, April 2

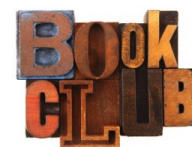
- ♦ 9:30 a.m. Lydia Group, Countryside Game
Room

♦ Thursday, April 3

- ♦ 9:30 a.m. Sarah Group, Family Life Center

Book Club

Here is a list of upcoming titles
for book club



- 📖 April 24: *Never* by Ken Follett
- 📖 May 22: *Belonging* by Michell Miller
- 📖 June 26: *The Paris Architect* by Charles
Belfoure
- 📖 August 28: *Darling Girls* by Sally Hepworth

Book Club meets on the 4th Thursday of each month
at 9:00 a.m. at First Lutheran Church in the
Family Life Center

Prairie Rivers Spring Gathering will be held at Spirit of Hope, Scotland

Featuring speaker Anghy Aragon,
member of one of the ELCA companion
synods, the Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope in
Nicaragua. All women are invited to attend. It is a \$10
registration fee, lunch included.



Thrivent members are reminded to direct
their Thrivent Choice Dollars by the end of
March. Contact your Thrivent agent as to
where your Thrivent Choice Dollars can be
directed. If they are directed to First
Lutheran, please let Jodi know if they are
to go to a specific cause within the church.

UPCOMING RUMMAGE SALE!

First Lutheran will be
hosting another rummage
sale June 5-7. Please begin
saving items to donate. Judy Thiesse has
agreed to be the coordinator.



Church Clean-up

On April 26
starting at 9:00
a.m. there will
be a clean-up of
the church grounds. Please
bring your work gloves,
broom, rake, and other misc.
tools and help beautify the
church property after a long
winter!





Meal: 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.

Worship
6:45 p.m.

Featuring the music of
Holden Evening Prayer

**Lenten
Worship**

Wed., April 2nd
Wed., April 9th

Easter Flowers

It's time to order potted plants
for Easter! If you would like to
order a plant in memory or
honor of a loved one, Easter
Lilies & Daisies/Mums will be
available for purchase for
\$16.00 each, price includes tax.
Orders are due on April 7

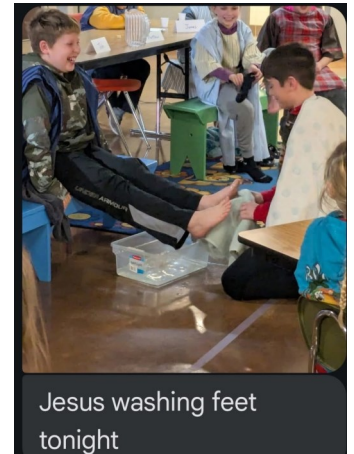


On Wednesday, April 18 and 23
there won't be any Wednesday
activities. April 30 will be the final
Wednesday of supper, Journey with
Jesus, Confirmation and Wednesday
worship until Fall of 2025. Have a good summer!

Scholarship Reminder

The Prairie Rivers Scholarship for students planning to
attend, or presently enrolled, in an ELCA college
(Augustana, Concordia, St. Olaf, Gustavus, etc.).
Applications may be picked up in the church office.
Applications are due April 1.

Journey with Jesus kids watch as older students act out the Last Supper



Wednesday, March 26 5th Grade First Communion Preparation Painting wine chalices



March 2 Camp Sunday with Pastor Dave Zellmer



Wednesday Lenten Worship Services



Wednesday,
March 19

Wednesday,
March 26



Wednesday Lenten Meals

Wednesday,
March 5



Wednesday,
March 12



Sunday, March 23 Worship



Worship Music
Leadership:
Jessica Haigh

Children's Good
News Time



Wednesday,
March 26